Chen, Ou end memorable stay at Agape. PAGE 2
CUC board cancels RFP for IRP power supply sources. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

CUC is going BANKRUPT

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Utilities company has negative $303K in unrestricted cash

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is leaning toward insolvency as it currently has no money to pay for its day-to-day operations and debt service, among others.

Chief financial officer Matt Yaquinto reported to the CUC board that, as of May 12, they have a negative $303,463 in unrestricted cash.

"We have a negative unrestrict-

See CUC on Page 4

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Commonwealth Utilities Corp. chief financial officer, right, explains to the board and management their financial status as of this month. CUC has a negative unrestricted cash of about $300,000.

Torres eyes two panels for 902 report on immigration, military

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Torres

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced yesterday that it would form two working groups to separately address issues of foreign labor workforce and U.S military proposed training in the CNMI as part of upcoming consultations with the White House.

"This administration is continuing the critical task of creating a panel that draws from both the public and private sectors. The panel itself will consist of highly qualified and knowledgeable officials in the fields of public policy, business, academia, and immigration," Torres officials said in their statement. "Because of the

See TORRES on Page 4

AS PROSECUTION, DEFENSE BOTH REST CASE

FBI special agent baffled why Jucutan thought he'd get shot

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Prosecution makes 5'1" special agent who 'scared' defendant stand before jurors

The prosecution yesterday made to stand before jurors Elizabeth H. Smith, a 5'1" tall U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command special agent who, according to former U.S. Army Reserve member Jordan M. Jucutan, caused him to get intimidated and scared during an interview.

The prosecution yesterday afternoon also recalled to the witness stand Federal Bureau of Investigation special agent Joseph Strantz, who described as absurd Jucutan's statement that he was scared that special agents may shoot him during the interview.

Strantz testified that in his 15-year career with the FBI, he never heard anything like that—a person getting shot during an interview.

After Jucutan completed his testimony yesterday, attorney Pamela Brown Blackburn, counsel for the defendant, informed the court that the defense rests its case. The prosecu-

See FBI on Page 4

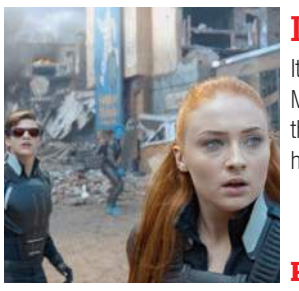
INSIDE

LOCAL
On Saturday, May 14, 2016, students from six Saipan schools attended the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's 2016 Schools for Environmental Conservation final workshop.

PAGE 6

LOCAL
Japanese actor Yosuke Kubozuka was on Saipan last week with *Adventure King* magazine on birthday holiday.

PAGE 14



LIFE & STYLE
It's a bit of bad timing for "X-Men: Apocalypse" coming third in this summer's superhero lineup.

PAGE 19

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Local

Chen, Ou end memorable stay at Agape

JON PEREZ

The 31 graduates—K5, middle, and high school—pose for a photo after receiving their diplomas in last night's 9th Commencement and Graduation ceremony of Agape Christian School at its auditorium.

JON PEREZ

Elizabeth Beibei Chen, center, with her parents after receiving the highest honor

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Elizabeth Beibei Chen and Owen Yuanzhi Ou ended their memorable stay at Agape Christian School but it also signifies the start of another chapter in their lives. Chen and Ou were part of the 31 students from K5, 8th grade, and 12th grade in ACS' 9th Commencement and Graduation ceremony held last night at the school's auditorium.

Chen, who was part of the CNMI MathCourt team that competed in Missouri early this year, said she would forever remember her whole experience at ACS. "Everything here is memorable. This was my second home."

"I have wonderful teachers that supported me in every step that I take and great classmates who became more than my friends," added Chen, who finished her senior year with a 4.0 grade point average.

She got accepted to Pensacola Christian College in Florida where she will be taking up nursing. PCC's nursing program is among the top five in the nation.

"I'm going to take nursing as a stepping stone to medical school. I'm still interested in going to law school, but I'm going to take it one step at a time," said Chen, who was also accepted to Geneva College in Pennsylvania.

She's going back to Nanjing, China to visit her family before flying to Pensacola on Sept. 4.

Ow, who was accepted at West Point, said that ACS' strict rules became his initial training before heading to United States Military Academy.

"The strictness and discipline helped me in my daily life. Following the rules of the school and studying hard so you won't get failing grades," said Ou, who was also nominated to attend the Falcon Visitation Program of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.

"The school's military type or army style discipline molds you to become a better person. It also prepared me for the tougher training that I would get at West Point. I can adjust easily since there are a lot of rules that you need to follow at Agape," he added.

"Your shirt must always be tucked in once at school, speaking English is mandatory, and you can't speak unless spoken too. The teachers are strict but it is for your own good. You need to study hard."

JON PEREZ

Owen Yuanzhi Ou, center, is joined by his family and friends after the ceremony.

The now 18-year-old, who has a 3.9 GPA, will also visit his relatives in Guangzhou, China before heading to West Point in New York before the June 27 opening.

Guest speaker Dr. Boaz Boon said that it takes a village to raise a child. "Constant fellowship with partners with common goals. From educational foundation to sustainable godly character, empowered by the Holy Spirit."

He added that the students' graduation is only a commencement of their journey ahead. "Now commence your journey of education in God's perspectives, partnership, and practice."

ACS president and senior administrator, Rev. Kok Pang, said leaving ACS is not the end of their journey and reminded all students to check God's word. "When in doubt, check God's word. You are going to leave us but remember God won't leave you. Always turn to him and he is just a prayer away."

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM
Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.
Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.

CUC board cancels RFP for IRP power supply sources

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The board of directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has decided to cancel the request for proposals CUC had issued last year regarding power supply sources for its Integrated Resource Plan that has been in the works since 2014

RFP 15-002 was issued for advertisement on November 2014 to solicit "competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply reliable, affordable energy from commercially proven electric generation resources for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

The solicitation sought "responses from suitably qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one, or more, proponent(s) to negotiate long-term power supply contracts that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. CUC's requirements for new power supply resources will be determined as part of its Integrated Resource Plan, which is currently underway."

CUC has been developing the IRP with their consultant—Leidos Engineering LLC whom they paid $495,000 for its services—to choose feasible, cost-effective, and reliable resources for their power generation.

In May 2015, Leidos reported to the board that they received nine "well-developed" proposals in February 2015, of which five turned out to qualified.

During their March board meeting, the majority of the CUC board opted to delay its decision on the IRP despite bidders waiting on a decision.

Only director David Sablan supported in approving one of the case scenarios presented by Leidos which will include 10-megawatts of photovoltaic power and pursuing light fuel oil diesel engines that can be converted to liquefied natural gas.

Sablan argued then that there were bidders that were waiting on their decision based on the RFP that they issued, however, the board majority sided with vice chair Eric San Nicolas to "invite Mobil back to the negotiation table to potentially renegotiate a potential change order on the $371-million contract that was signed in March 2014."

Sablan told the board that the move was "completely irresponsible" raising the question on what they will be doing to the bidders who participated in the RFP.

Now that the RFP is cancelled, CUC legal counsel James Sirok when asked what will happen to those who submitted their proposals, Sirok said "everything is cancelled."

"Well when the RFP is cancelled, everything is cancelled," Sirok said.

He declined to disclose the reason for the cancellation.

"It was cancelled," Sirok said, "The reason, I am not at liberty to tell you that right now."

Asked if this means that the IRP was cancelled as well, Sirok said "no."

"No, just the RFP 15-002 is cancelled," Sirok said, reiterating the cancellation when asked further if they will be issuing new RFP to continue with the IRP.

According to CUC acting executive director Gary Camacho, they are focusing on their short term plans right now which is to utilize existing power generation and get them to be in optimum condition while they consider their long term plan of expanding and having new forms of power generation.

"From my understanding on the cancellation is that we're not going to move forward with it. We're not going to move forward with the project at this time, that's why it was cancelled," Camacho said.

Camacho said they will still use the information presented to them by Leidos.

"The information with the IRP, we will utilize to review and determine our needs moving forward," Camacho said adding that Leidos' report has been completed recently and will be provided to the public after the board finished reviewing it.

Probable cause found to charge man who allegedly caused havoc on Pagan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday found probable cause to charge Crispin Fitipol Castro, a 38-year-old man accused of causing havoc on Pagan by setting on fire helicopter fuel tanks, shooting a radio communication system, breaking into the Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan's house with a sledge-hammer, and damaging the mayor's vehicle.

At a preliminary hearing, Camacho found probable cause to believe that three counts of criminal mischief were committed.

Camacho ordered Castro to answer the charges.

The judge, however, said he heard the testimony of the witness and found no probable cause to believe that the crime of reckless burning was committed.

Camacho dismissed the reckless burning charge without prejudice.

Dismissal without prejudice means the prosecution can still re-open the charge.

Acting chief prosecutor Barbara Cepeda appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Tillman Clark served as counsel for Castro.

After the hearing, Camacho remanded Castro to the Department of Corrections. Arraignment will be on June 6 at 9am.

According to the information filed by Cepeda, Castro punctured the fuel tanks and set them on fire, causing them to explode and burn between April 11 and 15, 2016 on Pagan.

The defendant also allegedly smashed the front and rear windshields and windows of a 1990 Daihatsu Jeep owned by Francisco L. Kaipat.

Castro damaged the fuel tanks and radio used for communication. N Aldan and/or the Northern Island Mayor's Office owned the property, according to court documents.

Castro also allegedly damaged the satellite dish and satellite servers belonging to the Homeland Security Emergency Management Office.

Police arrested Castro on Pagan last May 13.

Apatang: Replacement of flags at Microl intersection not under Saipan Mayor's Office

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said replacing the flags at the monument right across the Toyota dealership in San Jose is not under his office and lies on the owner of the building just beside the area.

Several flags located at the monument are already worn out and need to be replaced, while the water wheel is no longer working. DKK Corp., a Korean company, reportedly leases the land where the memorial is located.

"I know that's the building owner's job. I think that's the arrangement. But we took care of planting the flowers as part of our beautification project. We are working with the [Marianas Visitors Authority] to clean the tourist sites. Hope Beautify CNMI could help us," said Apatang.

He added that they have been busy the past few months cleaning debris left by Typhoon Soudelor. "Not only in the tourist areas but also in the villages. We hope to finish everything by the end of the month. We'll see."

Apatang also encouraged the community to help in keeping the islands safe. "If the trash bins are full put the trash in plastic bags or other containers. We need to work together in keeping our islands clean." ***(Jon Perez)***

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COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF BUSINESS MEETING

10:00 a.m. Thursday May 26, 2016

Notice is given that the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission will conduct a business meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday May 26, 2016 at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome. Reports and other documents relevant to the agenda are available for review at the law offices of Mark Hanson, Esq. 2nd Floor, Macaranas Bldg. Beach Road, Garapan [phone 233-8600]. Questions regarding the agenda should be directed by email to cpuc.cnmi@gmail.com.

Agenda

1. **Administrative:**
   a. Call to order – quorum
   b. Approval of agenda
   c. Approval of minutes of September 25, 2015 meeting
   d. Administrative Resolution under §8411

2. **Docket 13-01: CUC Regulatory Docket:**
   a. Hearing examiner's report: non-technical losses; commercial IR tariff; net metering; and provisional FAC authority.
   b. Proposed order

3. **CUC request for suspension of prehearing activity in Docket 16-01.**

4. **Other Business.**

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Attorney for: Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- VINCENT A. MANGLONA, BENITA A. MANGLONA, V.B. MANGLONA ENTERPRISES, TONGA GARDENS, PASEO DRIVE INCORPORATED, GUAM ISLA LP GAS AND APPLIANCE and MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA, INC. Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0194-CV **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the following described, real properties situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Fee simple title to:

Tract No. 22102, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2048/77 the original of which was registered 23 APR 79 as Document No. 8162 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Tract No 22214, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3017/87 the original of which was registered 28 FEB 89 as Document No. 89-0624 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 053 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 535 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 053 R 00 the original of which was registered 19 JAN 94 as Document No. 94-0176 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 07, Rota, containing an area of 836 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 21 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Leasehold Interest to:

Lot No. 017 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 929 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 017 R 00 the original of which was recorded 29 JUL 87 as Document No. 87-2715 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 04, Rota, containing an area of 6,626 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 12, Rota, containing an area of 3,197 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 25, Rota, containing an area of 735 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 12 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m. on Friday May 27. 2016,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**

2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.

4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235 7147; or to Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234 7256.

5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the property and any improvements thereon are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 04 day of May, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

CUC

From Page 1

ed cash when you take into consideration what we have to pay Mobil and also our outstanding checks," Yaquinto said.

The board has been warned of not having enough money earlier this year, with a projection that they will not have funds for operations by October. However, as early as now, CUC already has a negative unrestricted cash.

Unrestricted cash is the money that the corporation uses for its operations such as buying fuel, maintenance, supplies as well as capital improvements, debt service, and general and administrative costs, even including the board of directors' expenses.

"Our fuel is our largest expense which is roughly $800,000 to $1 million," Yaquinto said.

While CUC said it has "decreased spending in real terms to $28.2 million from 2005 to 2014," they are averaging a cash loss of $1 million per month over the past year and have lost a "significant amount of customers."

The financial report said that on 2014, CUC's annual kilowatt per hour sales fell to $205 million. An average residential customer today now only uses approximately 400 kWh.

"It's significant because basically we have the same infrastructure and you would have more fuel cost but your fixed cost or your administration cost, that basically doubles because you have to allocate kilowatt hours," Yaquinto said.

Revenue must increase

According to Yaquinto, CUC "has not and is not currently billing or collecting enough revenues to ensure long term viability."

"Revenues must increase," Yaquinto stated in his report.

"Our revenue isn't high enough to sustain were we need to go," he added.

Due to its financial condition and history of losses, CUC is currently "not bankable," according to Yaquinto.

"We can't go out and get loans unless we get very high interest rates," Yaquinto said.

"I looked at about 10 utilities in the mainland and usually they have approximately 23 weeks of worth of cash in their books. Now some of that and this includes Guam Power Authority, some of that is because they have issued bonds and they have covenants," he added, "We're not even close to that. If we can repair our balance sheet, then we may be bankable."

To "increase revenue," the CUC board discussed addressing losses and theft, utilizing and increasing the number of prepay meters, implementing new telephone pole rates for Docomo, and the anticipated hooking up of Best Sunshine International, Ltd. to the grid for their upcoming project, and addressing accounts receivables particularly from the government to benefit their financial status.

In an interview, vice chair Eric San Nicolas said they are doing something "big picture-wise" on addressing issues and restated how they are addressing the government accounts receivables.

"And then we're communicating with the central government to continue their payment on a monthly basis. I believe that's one of the items of discussions when we'll meet with the acting governor [today]," San Nicolas said.

"And then we're on the verge of finalizing another agreement with the [Commonwealth Ports Authority] board to address both of our concerns financially from both sides," he added.

San Nicolas also mentioned renegotiating their contract with Mobil and hope that they realize savings from there.

These, according to San Nicolas, will "increase their revenue" without affecting customers.

"That's the key, to put us in a better financial situation without burdening the residential customers," San Nicolas said.

However, Yaquinto, in his report, stated that the government is only 17 percent of their total revenues and even if they paid their bills in full, CUC would still have had significant losses over the past several years.

"A lot has been said that the government, if they just get their bills, everything will be okay. But the government is just 17 percent of our revenues, 53 percent are commercial, and the rest are residential. So even if the government paid us, I think it's roughly $25 million that they owe us, but we still owe OPA (Office of Public Auditor) money that we haven't been paying. Even if they pay us 100 percent, we still have significant losses so we still have some issues," Yaquinto said.

The Public School System, which earlier owed CUC some $3.8 million, has been paying the utilities corporation $100,000 every month. But this cash inflow for CUC would go directly to the Commonwealth Development Authority as they aim to keep their account current and pay partially what they owe CDA at $4.3 million.

The agreement CUC entered with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. for it to pay its $16 million debt would result to a deficit of about $3 million to $4 million a year for CUC.

Issue with CPUC

San Nicolas also mentioned during the meeting how they would have generated about $6 million if only the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission acted on their rate case last year, Docket 15-02, which sets a uniformed rate of $0.069 per kilowatt hour to residential customers and if the commission acted earlier this month on their Docket 16-01, which adds two line item of charges to customers for the typhoon recovery and capital improvement.

"If all of those would have come into play, as of right now, or maybe by the end of the fiscal year, we could have been $5 million or $6 million in a better position," San Nicolas said.

"I just want that to be very clear, since members of the media are here, just so that we have an indication that this board is just not sitting doing nothing. Sometimes we are at the mercy of another body," he added.

However, it was the board itself who motioned to withdraw Docket 15-02 in February this year after CPUC didn't hold a hearing late last year. They also requested for the rate cases, including Docket 16-01, to be deferred during the rate hearing with CPUC this month resulting in it being moved to CPUC's October session.

TORRES

From Page 1

comprehensive nature of the discussions surrounding both the CW program and the proposed military projects respectively, we are looking into creating two working groups to formalize detailed discussion points for the consultations."

"The collective goal is to present to the federal government one comprehensive report that features recommendations from each of the two working groups," it added.

The upcoming talks come pursuant to Section 902 of the CNMI Covenant, which allows the CNMI to request consultation on issues affecting the local-federal relationship.

Last Friday, President Barack Obama designated Esther Kia'aina, assistant secretary of the U.S Department of Interior for Insular Affairs, to be his special representative for these talks, formally greenlighting the request for consultation the late governor Eloy S. Ions made last October.

The talks comes as local officials grapple for the first time with a foreign labor pool that has breached its federally mandated cap of contract workers allowed in the NMI this year.

The 902 discussions are expected to address the impending expiration of this program, the lifeblood of the local economy, in 2019.

"We understand the significance of these unique consultations with the federal government and remain hopeful that it produces real solutions for our Commonwealth. We will continue to do whatever we can to address the concerns of our business community, keep families with CW workers together, and preserve the natural integrity of our islands for generations to come," the administration said.

FBI

From Page 1

tion rested its case last Friday.

Jucutan, who is a teacher, is on trial for four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft. He is accused to have engaged in a scheme to defraud and to obtain money by falsely claiming he referred soldiers to enlist in the Army Reserve through the Army Recruiter Assistant Program (AR-RAP).

During cross-examination of Jucutan, assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorfing, counsel for the U.S. government, asked permission from the court to recall Army CID special agent Smith and let her stand before the jurors.

Lorfing said this is important because the defendant testified that he made false statements because he got scared and intimidated by Smith during an interview in a small room at the FBI office on March 31, 2015.

Jucutan said he is also scared of his wife and that he is not ashamed of it. His wife, Danica, who has been watching throughout the trial, was described in court as pettite.

Lorfing stated he too is scared of his wife, drawing laughter from some jurors.

Blackburn objected to Lorfing's request, saying "it's theatric, unnecessary and not material."

U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson, who is presiding over the trial, granted the prosecution's request.

The petite 5'1" tall Smith entered the courtroom and Lorfing asked her to stand before the jurors. After less than a minute, Lorfing excused the special agent.

In the U.S. government's cross-examination on Jucutan, Lorfing told the defendant that according to his testimony he trusts Smith but at the same time scared of her.

Jucutan maintained his testimony that he's scared and at the same time trusts Smith.

Lorfing asked if Jucutan has other reasons why he made a "false statement" to Smith in the March 31, 2015, interview.

Jucutan on Monday testified that the confession that he wrote before Smith in the March 31 interview was false.

On Friday, Smith testified that during her interview, Jucutan issued a sworn statement admitting, among other things, that he stole personal information from 18 potential soldiers.

In response to Lorfing's question as other reasons, Jucutan said it's that part of the unrecorded interview when Smith told him that whatever he did it's still stealing.

Jucutan said he just started freaking out when he entered that small room with Smith.

Jucutan said he didn't understand some of the questions during the interview, but Smith told him to just answer the questions.

Lorfing noted that in Jucutan's separate sworn affidavit filed in court, the defendant stated that the only thing that is correct in his sworn statement given to Smith is when he stated that the number of people that he recruited as potential soldiers was 38.

Lorfing then read Jucutan's sworn statement in which he disclosed, among other things, that his girlfriend, who is now his wife, was then pregnant.

Lorfing asked if Jucutan's wife was pregnant in 2007. The defendant agreed that his girlfriend was then pregnant and that specific statement is true.

Lorfing asked nine other things in that sworn statement that Jucutan described in his testimony as false.

Jucutan agreed with Lorfing that the nine other things in that sworn statement are indeed true and factual.

Lorfing asked the defendant if all those people he nominated for the AR-RAP who stated that they did not give their personal information to him, they were lying.

Jucutan replied that he's only human and can't remember things from six to nine years ago.

Lorfing asked about some specific facts or things in Jucutan's sworn statement that are contrary to his sworn affidavit filed in court.

Jucutan answered that he's been truthful and that maybe there's some typos. He said his counsel, Blackburn, helped him with that sworn affidavit.

Jucutan then stated, "Not typos, maybe misstatements." He continued by stating, "maybe mistakes, I don't know."

After Jucutan completed his testimony, Lorfing recalled FBI special agent Strantz to the witness stand. Strantz already testified on Friday.

Strantz said during their interview with Jucutan at the FBI's office on March 5, 2015, he never raised his voice and never yelled at him.

Strantz said he never threatened the defendant and never told him that he could not leave.

The special agent said he asked Jucutan if he wanted to leave, but the defendant replied that he wanted to stay.

Strantz said it was a non-custodial interview because Jucutan was not under arrest at that time.

Strantz agreed with Jucutan's statement that he had a gun at that time during the interview.

The special agent said they are authorized by FBI policy to conceal a gun even during interviews.

Strantz described the March 5 interview with Jucutan as a "low-key interaction."

Strantz said it was clear during the interview that Jucutan was aware that they were working on an investigation of fraud and that he was brought up in the investigation.

Strantz said Jucutan did not admit anything in that March 5 interview and did not answer a lot of questions.

The special agent said it was very typical interaction that lasted for 46 minutes.

He said Jucutan was clearly aware that he was subject of the investigation.

Strantz said he is impartial and that his sole job is to research the matter, get facts, determine what happened, and submit the reports to the prosecution.

He said he never told Jucutan that he could not get an attorney during the interview.

After Strantz, the prosecution recalled CID special agent Smith to the witness stand.

Smith, who is a polygraph examiner, testified that her interview on March 31, 2015, with Jucutan was one of the easiest interviews she had because the defendant was friendly and likeable.

Smith said there was no reason for her not to give Jucutan advice about his Miranda or constitutional rights.

Smith said she never yelled or raised her voice at Jucutan.

"It was a pleasant two-way conversation," she said.

Smith said Jucutan provided her details about the case that she didn't even know about.

"I have a good rapport with him," the special agent added.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday late afternoon, Smith was still on the witness stand.

Church to lay cornerstone for new worship center

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The shoveling of dirt in every groundbreaking ceremony symbolizes the start of a facility's construction. But in the case of Cornerstone Christian Church, it is like planting the seed of a tree that would later bore fruit to sustain a congregation hungry for God's word.

On Sunday, Rev. Manuelito Rey led the ceremony, along with their partners, for the project beside their worship center in Chalan Piao.

Once completed, the worship center will be used by the community with the purpose of educating them about the word of God and for other services.

The project will be done in stages starting with Phase 1, which starts beside the worship center. The main structure of the worship center will be demolished for the next stage of the project.

Raymond Casuncad, the N15 architect, said they would begin construction in June. "The whole area, once completed, is 40X80 square feet. It will take three to four months for the entire project since the materials and some of the structures are already there."

JON PEREZ

Cornerstone Christian Church senior pastor Rev. Manuelito Rey, fourth left, leads the groundbreaking ceremony of their new facility last Sunday. Others in photo are, from left, Cezar Supitan, Jun Beltran, Freddie Cataluna, Andrew Ashburn, Raymond Casuncad, and Dennis Tupaz.

Casuncad thanked all of their partners including architects, engineers, and building contractors who are members of their Christian community. He said that what was once a community that started in an Afetna garage grew and in a few months would have a new place of worship.

"From Afetna, we moved to a facility in Koblerville where we stayed for two years. We transferred here after we got a 55-year lease of the property," said Rey, who had only 10 members 17 years ago.

"The project moved forward after some fundraising programs, and with the help of the congregation and some friends. We have good partners and different things came out to help us in the project plus the contribution of the skills of some of our church members."

He added that all are workers of God. "We must remember that we are thinking of the next generation. The stability of our future wrest on what we do in our time."

"The challenge now is how can we be part of building the future and supporting the next generation? This is a shining example of having a legacy that the Lord will bless," said Rey.

Tinian DPS sets OP/CR Checkpoints

The Tinian Department of Public Safety would like to inform the general public that the DPS Traffic Section will be conducting OP/CR Checkpoints on the dates and time listed below:

- On May 25, 2016 set up will be at the baseball field east bound lane from 12pm to 1:15pm.
- On May 26, 2016 set up will be by Youth Center on South-bound lane from 4pm to 5:15pm.
- On May 27, 2016 set up will be by the Baseball Field east bound lane from 12pm pto 1:15pm.

For more information, please contact Police Officer III Wally F. Villagomez at (670) 433-9222 or 433-2041. ***(PR)***

Sen. Tmetuchel on island this Saturday

To all Palauans residing in CNMI, Palau Senator Melib Tmetuchel will be on Saipan this Saturday, May 28, 6pm at the Round House Central Park, Garapan and would like to meet all Palauans on the island. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-014

AS LITO WATER DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT/RELOCATION OF SERVICE LATERALS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new distribution lines, cut and cap of existing lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of new fire hydrants, flush hydrants, air relief valves, new water lateral connections, relocation and reconnection of existing water meters and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "*CUC-IFB-16-014, As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 9, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 23, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-015

NMC 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of installation of a new transmission line between the new NMC tank and existing Kannat Tabla tank; removal of existing fiberglass tanks, 1.0 Million Gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances at the NMC tank site; additional boring, design and construction of the new NMC 1.0 Million Gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new NMC water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; installation of a new booster pump (triplex system) with back-up generator at the NMC tank site; construction of a new chlorination station at the NMC tank site; construction of a new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting at NMC tank site; and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 420 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **May 31, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-015, Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) June 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 1, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

POI Aviation
invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Avionics Technician (2)
Requires: High School graduate/GED or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program. FCC license or NCATT certification or an equivalent foreign license. Four (4) years experience in an avionics/electrical career field; or two (2) years of accredited schooling in aviation electronics and two (2) years related experience. Performs various troubleshooting and evaluation of aircraft avionics systems; removal and installation of panels and components; and repair work. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (5)
Requires: Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Performs various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (3)
Requires: Diploma from technical/vocational course on automotive/diesel engines with minimum of 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines for automobiles and other specialized motorized equipment. Performs mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles. Must also be skilled in parts fabrication.

Load Planning Specialist (1)
Requires: Associate's Degree with 2 years of aircraft ramp operation experience with specific airline certification as a load planner. Ensures that aircraft load is distributed and secured in accordance with aircraft weight and balance requirements, ensuring that the aircraft's operational or structural limitations are not exceeded. Must be computer-literate and can perform manual weight and balance calculations.

Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) (3 Part-time)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Performs interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Must be knowledgeable in the use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials.

Airport Service Agent (Passenger) (2 Part-time)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Assists passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/ reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills in both English and Chinese. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician (1)
Requires: AS Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering with 4 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing various repairs on aircraft airframe and power plants and other required services to ensure airworthiness. Must be skilled in the use of specialized aircraft testing equipment and hold current U.S. FAA A&P License or an equivalent foreign license.

Lead Airport Service Agent (Aircraft) (1)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the manager, performing interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in the use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver's license.

Lead Airport Service Agent (Passenger) (2)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger or customer service. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, assisting passengers by answering inquiries regarding flight information/booking/reservations, checking-in out-bound passengers and luggage and assisting them in boarding flights, assisting in-bound passengers through immigration and customs. Must be computer-literate with excellent oral and written communication skills. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

Lead Customer Service Agent (Cargo) (1)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience as a cargo handler. Handles and accepts cargoes according to the IATA, FAA, TSA, local airport, airlines and company regulations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, preparing documents for out-going and transfer cargoes. Must be able to operate forklift and other cargo-handling equipment and be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards. Must be proficient in the use of CSP Cargo Trac System.

Lead Customer Service Agent (Ramp) (3)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 4 years experience in ramp cargo loading and unloading operations. Heads shift or work project, as directed by the supervisor, operating equipment for loading and off-loading baggage/cargo to and from the aircraft for both commercial and freight aircraft. Ability to teach operation of specialized equipment for aircraft servicing and ramp operations. Must be able to lift 70 pounds and carry it for at least 100 yards.

Technical Operations Supervisor (1)
Requires: Diploma from technical / vocational course on automobile gas / diesel engines with minimum 4 years experience with a supervisory capacity in electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic system and gas / diesel engine maintenance. Plans work and supervises mechanics in performing mechanical and electrical repairs, welding repairs, corrosion treatment and painting on all GSE equipment and vehicles.

Terminal Operations Supervisor (1)
Requires: Associate's degree in related field. Five (5) years equivalent work experience. Specific airline certification as load planner. Sufficient mathematical skills to perform manual weight and balance calculations. Thorough knowledge in all areas of ramp, cargo and flight operations. Knowledgeable in FAA, ICAO, IATA, TSA, local airport and airline regulations

Accountant (1)
Requires: Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with 2 years of progressive experience in accounting. Airline industry experience preferred. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, Peachtree and Microsoft software.

Accounting Manager (1)
Requires: College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage people. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, Peachtree and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 2, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Mt. Carmel and Kagman High participate in SFEC program

On Saturday, May 14, 2016, students from six Saipan schools attended the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's 2016 Schools for Environmental Conservation final workshop, where they shared their final presentations at Pacific Islands Club.

In its eigth year, SFEC is a program that works with Saipan high schools to raise awareness about issues facing our island environment and is funded through generous support from the Department of Interior.

With guidance from MINA and their teachers, students developed school-focused Conservation Action Plans to address conservation issues they see facing their community related to the year's theme. To address this year's theme, "Learning About, Interacting With, and Actively Conserving Saipan's Watersheds," presentations at the beginning of the year were given by employees of the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Jihan Buniag, Becky Skeele, Dr. Ryan Okano, Avra Heller, and intern Carey Demapan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A Kagman High School student plants around their campus.

Focusing on the watershed theme, Mount Carmel School's CAP aimed to prevent runoff by restoring walkways and plant-life by building a rain garden in an area on campus that frequently flooded. Their next steps are to integrate the rain garden project into the upcoming year's curriculum for science classes and an expansion to other sites on campus.

According to senior Thomas Manglona II, "Participating in MINA's SFEC program allowed us to learn outside of the conventional classroom. My classmates and I gained valuable environmental knowledge and were able to apply it in our projects directly. We did not read about it in a textbook—MINA allowed us to engage in real life discussion and be involved in the process firsthand. Every school ought to join MINA's effort. As youth, it's our moral obligation to take care of our environment and not stand idly by expecting someone else to take the lead. On a much larger scale, MINA has allowed us to do just that."

Representatives from Kagman High School's CAP team had a mission to conserve rain water and use it to restore the trees and plants around their campus that were destroyed by Typhoon Soudelor. To do this, they planted 20 native plants and trees around the campus and installed five rain barrels in areas on campus most affected by overflowing water to help water the plants. As a result of their project, they were able to successfully restore greenery on campus.

According to the KHS team, "KHS has never looked more green. We plan to pass on the responsibility to upcoming club officers, maintain all plants on campus, watering them with the water collected in the bins, and install a compost pile." ***(PR)***

Mount Carmel School's completed rain garden. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Man allegedly stole car, then repainted and modified it

A man allegedly stole a car that was parked in Chalan Piao last month, then repainted and modified it to avoid detection from its owner.

The suspect, Christopher Lee Muna, 30, was arrested last week for theft of vehicle, tampering with vehicle, and receiving stolen property.

At a hearing last Thursday, Superior Court Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a $15,000 cash bail and appointed chief public defender Douglas Hartig as counsel for the defendant.

Preliminary hearing will be today, Wednesday, at 9am.

Police Traffic Investigator Norris Kwon stated in his report that last April 19, a woman contacted the Department of Public Safety and reported that her car that was parked at the Bank of Guam Building in Chalan Piao was stolen.

Kwon said a police officer responded to the scene and learned from the car owner that she had just purchased the vehicle five days ago, parked it a night before, and discovered it was stolen that day at 6:15am.

The owner said the car has a license plate ACJ-010 and was registered as a red 1998 Toyota Tercel two-door sedan.

Last Tuesday, May 17, at 7:17pm, Police Officer Jackson Davis initiated a traffic stop on a green Toyota Tercel, a two-door sedan bearing CNMI license plate ABV-913 along Iriko Drive in Chalan Piao.

Upon Davis' reporting the violator stop to DPS Central Office, Police Officer Edward Cepeda, who heard the violator stop through radio, advised Davis to verify the license plate and registration against the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) found on the dash or the factory decal placed on the driver's side body frame.

Cepeda at that time was also entertaining a theft complaint of a car with license plate ABV-913, which was stolen along with its vehicle registration in the past.

With the assistance of another police officer, Davis discovered that the factory decal bearing the VIN was tampered with and scraped off from the driver's side body frame.

The officers also found out that the VIN plate placed on the left front windshield was covered with a black spray paint.

By removing the black spray paint off from the left front windshield, the officers were able to get the VIN that was confirmed to have matched with the reported stolen car with license plate ACJ-010.

At 7:31pm that same day, Muna, who was the driver of the car, was arrested and the vehicle was secured at DPS Central for safekeeping.

Last Wednesday, Kwon said he inspected the recovered car and noticed signs of tampering with its VIN and modification. Kwon also observed that the car was newly repainted green.

Kwon said Muna signed a written statement admitting to being in possession of the stolen car for approximately two weeks and had no intention to return it to the owner or report the matter to police.

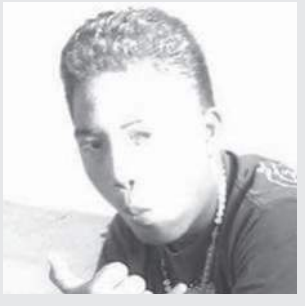
Kwon said Muna further admitted that he repainted the car from red to green, cut the exhaust pipe to amplify the noise level, installed a CD player and speakers, changed the front grill, and put decal on the body, to avoid detection from the owner.

Last May 16, Joshua James Torres Cruz, 24, was arrested for allegedly stealing a car from a residence in San Jose, in possession of methamphetamine or "ice," and owning a marijuana plantation. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

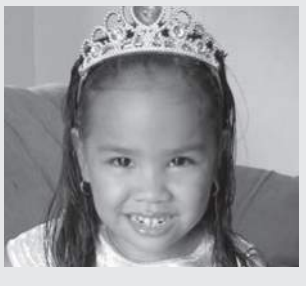
Happy 5th birthday to a handsome, intelligent, and adorable lil' man Keowynn King Kaipat. May your day be filled with lots of love, fun, and surprises. We love you to the moon and back. Xoxo, Mommy, Daddy, Kobe, and Kaleigh."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday Nygel Lance Limes Wabol. You're officially 15 years old. May God bless you on this very special day as you continue to grow. We love you so much and I hope you enjoy today because today is the day to have fun. Greetings from Mom, Dad, Bing, and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 6th birthday Miss Taylor Jade! We are so proud of your great accomplishments throughout the past years and you deserve nothing but our love and support. Keep up the good work! Love, your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

(2) Bartender
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent with at least one year of working with experienced employees in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible schedule including evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 30, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

JOB VACANCY

Position: Housekeeping Cleaner (10)
Qualification: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of 6 months work in a hotel is preferred. Able to speak and write English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good Customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects.

Position: Laundry Attendant (2)
Qualification: High school graduate or equivalent. 6 months to 1 year work experience as a laundry worker is preferred. Must be able to lift and push up to 30 pounds without any assistance. Must be able to stand on feet for long periods of time. Must be able to work flexible schedule including weekends, nights & holidays.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from our security office located at the South Wing. To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than May 26, 2016. Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-026

Opening Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Closing Date: Wednesday, June 01, 2016

Maintenance Worker

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Management Analyst or designee. Performs routine preventative and general maintenance of buildings, grounds, equipment and systems in accordance with safety procedures and safe work practices. Maintains cleanliness of facilities including sweeping, mopping, buffing and vacuuming floors and carpets; cleans surfaces including doors, windows and work surfaces; dusts shelving and equipment; performs custodial duties; and collects and disposes trash. Performs basic building maintenance; replaces light bulbs; performs basic repairs such as door knob replacement, blower fan repair, and other routine equipment repairs; maintains order with equipment, furnishings, work areas and supplies. Notifies appropriate resource for advanced troubleshooting or repair work. Performs basic grounds keeping and facilities maintenance; inspects areas to maintain safety and eliminate general hazards. Reviews supply needs and replenishes supply stock such as tissue, paper towels, trash liners and other supply needs; moves file boxes or other items to storage areas; ensures proper storage of cleaning materials, equipment and tools. Performs inventory check of supplies and initiates requests for replenishment. Maintains activity records or logs. Assists skilled maintenance workers with project tasks; may assist with basic carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Position requires the ability to lift 50 pounds or more. May be exposed to hazardous cleaning chemicals. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION	:	Administration (Dandan Office) **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY	:	$16,155.00 per annum to $19,850.00 per annum. (Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.)
CONTRACT	:	Not Contracted.
POSITION(S)	:	One (1)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Knowledge of: Applicable tools and equipment of assigned maintenance tasks; Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Performing routine and preventative maintenance in assigned area; Performing housekeeping or custodial work; Performing basic equipment or system repairs; Monitoring grounds and work areas for hazards and safety; Reviewing and replenishing stock supplies; Initiating stock and equipment replacement; Maintaining activity records or logs; Assisting with basic carpentry, plumbing and/or electrical work; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-013

Repair and Renovation of DPS Boating Safety Section Office, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of DPS Boating Safety Section Office, Smiling Cove, Saipan,** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **May 11, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 27, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 31, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-013".** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 21, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 21, 2016,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 21, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **July 01, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, July 05, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on June 21, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Twenty (120)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

PSS honors 'hero' teachers

Photos and text By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System ended its Heroes to Teachers week by honoring those who either served in the U.S. military or are in the U.S. Army Reserve last Friday at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort.

CNMI State Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero, in his welcome remarks, thanked all those veterans who are now working with the PSS. "We have quite a number of veterans, from [Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps] instructors to teacher assistants."

"Thank you to all of you and we appreciate your interest in being part of the PSS family. Thank you for your sacrifice and eager to learn skills to become successful members of the community," Guerrero added.

He said veterans and reservists who joined PSS have much to teach the students. "We can't underestimate the efforts you showed in serving our country. For that, you have much to teach our students regarding leadership and responsibilities."

Former senator Ray Yumul, the event's inspirational speaker, also lauded all PSS personnel who once served in the military saying that they are an outstanding group of people. He said it was Gerri Willis and Wilfred Camacho who were the ones who came up with the program.

"The Troops to Teachers program expanded. It is a form of career advancement for the, especially for those who just finished their service. Have something to do after being deployed," Yumul said.

"There are a lot of programs that are waiting after your military service. Teaching and guiding the students to become good citizens and excel in their studies is one of them," he added.

Principals of each school—elementary and junior high—then introduced each of their personnel who once served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

From left, Tanapag Middle School principal Erica Thornburgh and her teaching staff Jesse Arriola, Alvin Tagabuel, and Hilda Rios.

From left, Dandan Middle School principal Lyn Mendiola and her teaching staff Patrick Antonio, Jemma Manibo, Jermaine Catching, and Joseph Villacrusis. Not in photo is Jordan Jucutan.

Oleai Elementary School's U.S. Armed Forces members, from left, Randy Pagapular, Eugene Tabhan, Veronica King, and Jeffrey Bacani join principal Jasylene Parico.

From left, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan and Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas M. Barcinas poses with and service members who are now working as classroom teachers and teacher aides.

William S. Reyes Elementary School principal Naomi Nishimura, left, introduces her Heroes to Teachers personnel.

Former senator Ray Yumul was the event's inspirational speaker.

San Antonio Middle School principal James Sablan, right, and their Heroes to Teacher staff.

CNMI Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero with his welcome remarks.

PSS associate commissioner for student support service Yvonne Pangelinan, right, celebrates with Head Start's Heroes to Teacher.

Miss CNMI Liberation candidates' training kicks off

The training for the 2016 Miss CNMI Liberation candidates kicked off Monday evening at the Northern Marianas College with lessons taught by Ernie Molina, the CNMI's renowned pageant director and choreographer.

The goal of the pageant fundamentals training is to "prepare these young ladies for the role they will be taking on as titlists, as role models, as ambassadors of our people, and of the Northern Mariana Islands," said Rose Ada-Hocog. "In this particular training, they were taught about the three Ps—poise, posture, and presence—which are very important when making a first impression, whether it be for a job interview, attending community events, or meetings, etc."

"The objective of the training is to make them understand that their role is bigger than raising funds for the festival," explained Molina. "As CNMI's ambassadors, they need to be confident, graceful, and intelligent."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Liberation Day Royal Court chair Rose Ada-Hocog, left, and pageant coordinator Ernie Molina, right, join some of the candidates for a group photo after their training in preparation for this year's coronation night.

The feeling of excitement amongst the candidates spiked even more as they started their first day of training. "As we practiced our routine for the opening and coronation night, I realized the huge step we all took to be a part of this year's Miss CNMI Liberation pageant," according to Miss CNMI Liberation candidate and Northern Marianas College student Christine Roque.

"I am so thankful to have joined this pageant," said Miss CNMI Liberation candidate and Kagman High School senior Mardee Ann Hermosilla. "I gained another great mother and 25 other amazing sisters who accept me as I am."

"I would like to give a huge appreciation appreciate all the efforts to prepare us for the role we will be taking on as the incoming Royal Court," said Miss CNMI Liberation candidate and Kagman High School senior Coryn Monica Achas.

The training is the first of a series of trainings that the Saipan Mayor's Office, Skywalker Communications Group, and the Liberation Day Committee, with the assistance of NMC, have planned for the Miss CNMI Liberation Candidates' journey of self-discovery and development; a journey that is crucial for young women like them to blossom into strong independent women who will not only serve as role models, but who will also represent the CNMI's new era of women leaders.

Saipan Cares for Animals celebrates 1-year anniversary

Saipan Cares for Animals, the animal welfare group on Saipan, is celebrating its one year of existence on June 3, 2016. In the past year, the non-profit group has made its mission to improve the lives of animals on Saipan through medication, sterilization, and socialization.

"The group began one year ago when Humane Society International, working with an organization called Animal Balance, came to Saipan for the island's first ever spay/neuter clinic," said Beth Pliscou, president of Saipan Cares for Animals. "We had so many volunteers that showed up to help that when the organizations left, we knew we had to keep the momentum going, so we created Saipan Cares for Animals. In the two weeks the organizations were here we spayed and neutered 387 dogs. We've held two other smaller spay/neuter clinics since they left, and to date in the last year we have sterilized close to 700 cats and dogs on Saipan. Spaying and neutering is a humane way to control the pet population, because for each animal that is sterilized, they can no longer have babies and we hope to reduce the overrun dog and cat population through sterilization."

"Another one of our main goals is adoption," added Nicole Essa, vice president of SCA. "In the past year, we've adopted out over 300 dogs and cats to loving families. Animals that most likely would have been put down now have a second chance at a great life, and to see the smiles on the faces of families when they leave the shelter with their new pets is simply priceless."

The group has had over 150 volunteers join their efforts at one point or another. School groups have come to the shelter to walk dogs, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and Red Cross volunteers during Typhoon Soudelor acted as "foster parents," caring for animals on short five or seven day "vacations" to get them out of the shelter facilities for a break. Even tourists have stopped in on their vacations to spend a day with the animals!

"We owe a huge thank you to the community," said Jason Hudy from Saipan Cares. "Over the past year, we've lost count of the number of people who have donated food, toys, money, and more to our efforts. Businesses in the community have also donated to our efforts, whether its Bridge Capital or Atkins-Kroll Toyota giving us monetary donations, Kanoa Resort and Mariana Resort & Spa providing hotel rooms for visiting animal care specialists, Best Sunshine International, Ltd. donating manpower to help with improvements at the shelter, we couldn't do what we do without the support of the community. And a big shoutout to PAWS, the former animal welfare group on Saipan who helped us transfer the nonprofit license to us so we can do what we do."

"We also couldn't do what we do without the support of the Saipan Mayor's Office," added Essa. "Spencer [Mercadesh] and his team of ACO's, and SCA have formed a great working relationship, supporting each other to help the animals."

And the team at Saipan Cares for Animals looks for even more improvements in the coming year.

"Not everything has been perfect," said Pliscou. "We've had our share of difficulties with the typhoon, our main shelter closing, and learning how to support an organization like this. But through it all we've been able to have a tremendous impact and growth in one year. In the next year, we look forward to opening our own Saipan Cares for Animals Community Clinic, where we will offer basic, low-care animal services and medication to the public. We look forward to continuing to work with the Saipan Mayor's Office to socialize the homeless animals at the shelter and adopt them to wonderful people. And at some point we hope to have a long-term solution to the spay/neuter problem, one that will benefit the animals of Saipan for years to come.

To learn more, you can visit the group's website at www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com. You can also like their Facebook page, Saipan Cares for Animals. To learn more about adopting, fostering, or volunteering, please call or email Pliscou at 989-7601 or epliscou@att.net, Essa at 788-3000 or essanicole@gmail.com, or Hudy at 789-9464 or jason@Jasonhudy.com. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

RE-ANNOUNCEMENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Opening Date: May 25, 2016
Closing Date: June 14, 2016

Position: Appliance Technician I
Salary: PL 25/01 to PL 25/09 ($17,700.92 to $26,131.39 per annum)
(Starting salary will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.)

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 14, 2016, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than June 14, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fourteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at the PSS Emergency Operations Center, Building 1254 in Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
   a. April 28, 2016 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments[1]

III. Reports
1. Chair
2. Board Committees
   a. CIP
   b. FPA
   c. ISA
   d. LIA
   e. SICPP
   f. SARC
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Financial Status Reports
      i. Federal
      ii. Local
   b. Head Start Program
   c. Others

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business
1. STEM Equipment Grant Application for San Antonio Middle School
2. GO Bond Request – Garapan Elementary School Project
3. Proposed SY2016-2017 Menu
4. Ratification – BOE-PSS Comments to Senate Bill 19-91
5. CNMI Head Start Program (HSP)
   a. Grant & Budget Continuation Application for FY 2016-2017
   b. SY 2015-2016 HSP Community Assessment
   c. SY 2015-2016 HSP Self-Assessment
   d. Notice of Federal Interest on Head Start and Early Head Start Facilities
6. Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Zero to Five Comprehensive Program
   a. Expansion Grant-Continuation Application for Budget Period: August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017
7. Certification and Licensure Matters
   a. CLO Report No. 2016-005
8. Calendar on Regular Quarterly Meetings

VI. Executive Session[2]
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

VII. Administrative Matters
1. Employment Contract Renewals:
   a. BOE Staff
   b. Commissioner of Education
2. Commissioner Legal Fees

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Why Vietnam and America are better friends than you think

All these decades after the Vietnam War, mentions of Hanoi or Saigon summon ghosts. That trauma will never be erased, but slowly, appropriately, it is being eased aside by the realities of a changing world.

So it is that President Barack Obama goes to communist Vietnam early this week on a visit that is more about the future than the past. And as much about countering the rise of China as reframing U.S.-Vietnam relations.

Obama will visit Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon). His trip is the third by an American president to Vietnam since the two countries normalized diplomatic relations in 1995. Bill Clinton went in 2000; George W. Bush went in 2006. Vietnam, with a population of about 90 million, is now a significant American economic partner in Asia. Nike makes shoes there. McDonald's opened its first restaurant in Vietnam two years ago.

Trade and hamburgers — these are relatively easy ties to embrace, even between former enemies. But now the U.S. and Vietnam see reason to deepen their military relationship. Vietnam wants the United States to end a ban on arms sales, allowing it to shop for aircraft and other equipment. Obama reportedly is leaning toward a partial lift.

The U.S. Navy has its own request on the table: regular access to the port of Cam Ranh Bay. Does that name ring a bell? Trigger a flashback? The former U.S. Air Force and naval base at Cam Ranh Bay played a major role in U.S. military operations during the war. Service members started their tours of the war at Cam Ranh Bay, arriving by aircraft. The wounded were treated there.

But that was a long time ago, wasn't it?

Vietnam and the United States have good reason to cooperate on defense issues because they are both concerned about the potential threat China poses. As China flexes its muscle in the Pacific, the U.S. has a duty to keep the peace by projecting power.

Vietnam, among other countries in the region, needs the U.S. to play the bodyguard and peacekeeper role. While Vietnam and China are communist states with tight economic ties, there is a well of mistrust between them that reaches back centuries. They fought a border war in 1979.

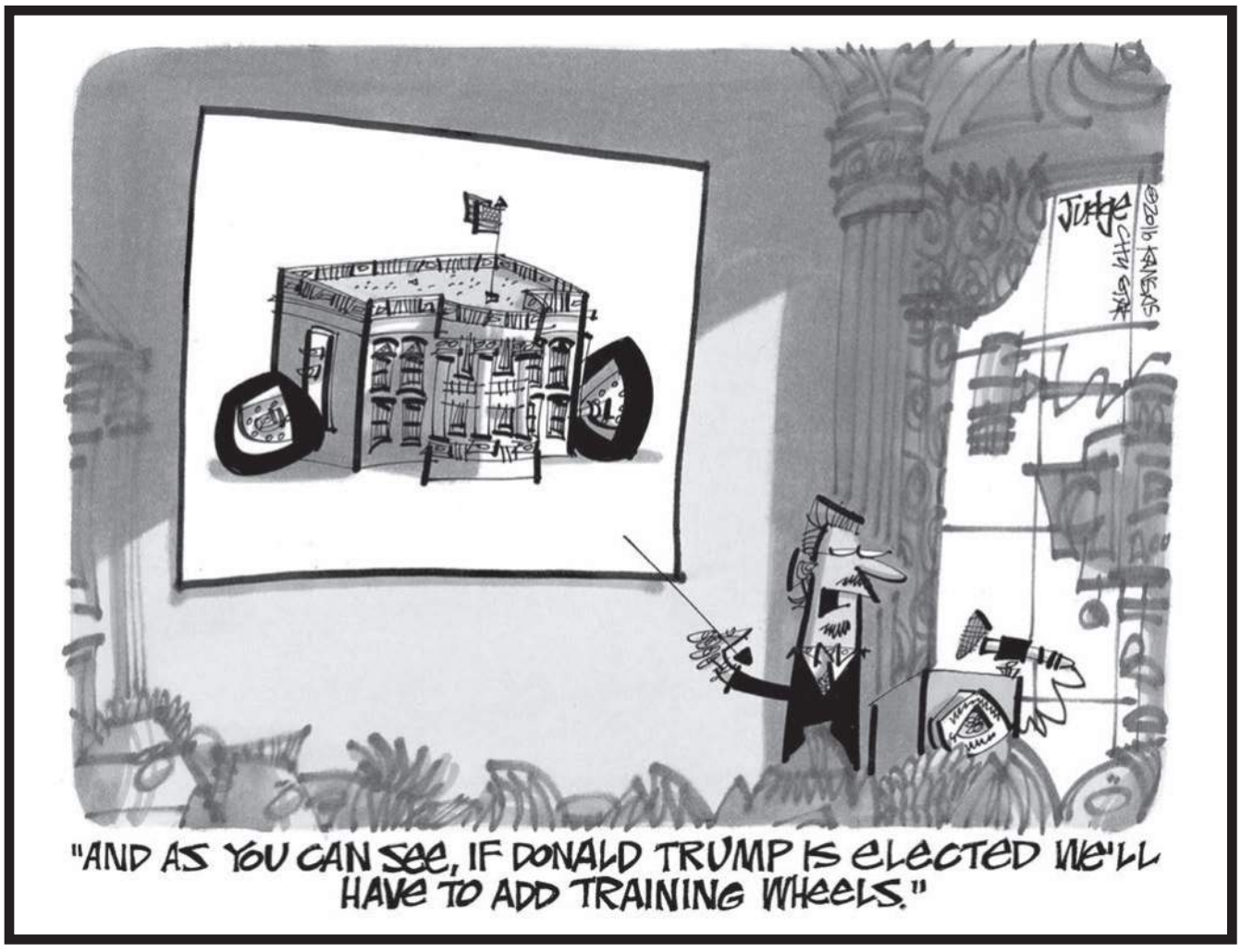
Over the last year, China has incited worry in its neighbors, including Vietnam, by enforcing territorial claims on the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. The Chinese are building artificial islands, turning several into military outposts and patrolling the area as if much of the open ocean between Vietnam and the Philippines belongs to them.

It doesn't. These are international waters. The U.S. challenges China's sovereignty claims by sailing and flying through the area. Last week, according to Pentagon reports, two Chinese fighter jets buzzed a Navy reconnaissance plane.

The dispute over control of the Spratlys involves multiple countries and is unlikely to be resolved easily. But Washington has to thwart Beijing's power grab. The U.S. is tightening military ties with Philippines, another country entwined historically with America but also suspicious of China.

Getting closer to Vietnam and the Philippines is further evidence of America's commitment to the Pacific region and its

See VIETNAM on Next Page



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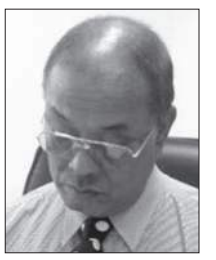

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Mafaisen un` patgon kau magahet na guaha Tooth Fairy? Ilegña, "Muñga man-mandage!" Haf` moratña i ineppen i patgon?

I hu chule` na keha halom gi kotte siempre u pega papa` i minagahet gi chatdisposision fondun publiku $400-mit pesus ni inapasen todu taxpayers. Ti matatiye lai konstitusion. Gi hilu` este kase siha ha` man-manhoñgge na guaha Tooth Fairy!

Responsablidat kada sudadanu na u tachu gi haf` tunas piot `nai oppan na guaha finababa gi man-inosiente. Lache este na maña piot `nai gaige hau gi pisun disposision asuntun linahyan.

Gi lataftaf `nai membron i sanpapa` na guma, umayau si Biktot Hokog $500-mit pesus para umana` la`la` i industrian gambling giya Luta. Kuestion: Esta manana`lu este na inayau? Kau magahet na la`la` industrian casino giya Luta? Na ti magahet na si Biktot ha bota casinon Saipan `nai ha senpunu` casinon iya Luta? Este na modun kabisiyu rumepresesenta tautau Luta?

Dispues ha ta`luye humasñgon chumoneg inayau $400 mit pesus para i MV Luta, bisnis familiaña. Manu gi este na inayau na ligat lau makontradise i lai? Kuantu pot sientu gi enteru publikun Marianas man-manmirerese pa`gu setbisiun MV Luta?

Kulan guaha inestablesen lastru gi manera `nai ha petsisige si Biktot fondun publiku. Lau pa`gu na biahe kase $160-miyon pesus na cho`chu` pot hanom hana` ke o`kahat para un` konsuttadotña. Dimalas, sa` gaige esta gi kotte kehan pot abusun lai konstitusion gi disposision fondun publiku.

Afañielos, obligasion kada sudadanu para u asegura na matatiye lai i tanu` siha. Na fan matatñga hamyu gumuatdia direchon todus gi pinetsigen para ta asegura na i kinalamten gobietno-ta mau`udai gi hilu` disposision yan areglun lai. Si Yuus Maase`!

Man-fatigau

Gi fina` hunta, i tautau ni tomtum yan mehnalom mamatkilu ya umekuñgog enlugat de u chalegua`gue`. Hu pega gi un` banda ya hu ekuñgog i tropan silensiu.

Estague` na grupu `nai gaige kabales na sentimentun mayotmente. Sinsiyu na ekspressiu. I man-sañgan espehos i man-pinalo`pu didog na chinatsaga.

Yangin fiet hau na mehnalom, pues siempre un` chule` i asuntun niha pot para un` fakot kinihutu taimanu `nai siña un` alibia piot chinatsagan monedan familia. Gai signifikasion yan sustansia i asuntu. Poresu na debi un` ketuñgu haf` plantau gi menamu.

Dos asuntu kumahulu` gi bandan pinepble: 1. Haye pumega i los prohimus guihe na estau? 2. Hafa satbasion-mu gi un` te`ug na pinadesen mayotmente finañagon diskuidun miyu?

I primet asuntu ginen diskuidon offisiat publiku. I segundu hagu ni ma-elihe mana`e katgu para un` satba sin ditension. Sin tana` lebug i hanom, haf` planumu? I dibinan satbasion gaige gi dos patman kanai-mu.

Dispues de hu diñgu i grupu esta hana` afatigagau-yu` i pinadesen diskuidun offisiat publiku. Hu faisen maisayu` haf` taimanu na mampos apattau i otdinariu yan offisiat publiku gi karera mona. Lau i tatatte man-offrese ayudu! Kau ti matuñgu` haf` inefresen niha? Man-fatigau i tautau mina` man-mamatkilu!

Diskuidu!

I publiku ti tañga, bachet yan udu gi nesessidatña. Ha dimemoria haf` asuntoña ya diariu ha pesa haf` na diskuidu siha man-mafattu gi pettan gima` niha. Sige pesa mayute` interesña kulan basula pot interes petsonat. Ha pañot dinagau to`lañg dañkulu.

Pot ihemplo: Mampos oppan yan plantau relasion manmaelihe yan man-mikepble na bisnis siha ginen hiyuñg. Maliñgu interes publiku sa` masoda` mikeple na amu. Esta namanman i mafa` taya` diskuidun niha gi halom este na rimulinu.

Este na rimulinu chumalapon malumot `nai man-mapulakes chada` ulu` ya matutuhon mañgunanaf huyuñg ginen apusientu. Manmamatkilu un` ratu sa` mampos keha i ilu` gi hilu` satge ni sige mañgunanaf!

I publiku ti kumuentos. Mamatkilu. Sige chumaleg tuyan sa` man-impirau i hagas representadot niha kume tampe i machapon na malumot. Mientras tantu, sige amiguhu Magoo kumanta "Irene Goodnight". Hu soyu` na kase mas paha, "I Papa` I Kandet". I morat: Todu ini`ina ni atdau siempre u anog! A`saina!

Presiun Nesessidat

Hu analisa gaston nesessidat gi un` attikulu kuantu kahuloña gi halom `nos kuantos años. I latan tuna estaba $.99 kada lata. Pa`gu, $1.69 kada unu. Kahulu` presiuña mas ke 70 pot sientu.

Mauleg hamyu mismu in` hisga kau kahulu` parehu sueddon miyu pot para in` kubre ennau na gastu? Na ti gatdun sueddun miyu mientras sige hulu` gastun fektos siha? Haf` na alibiu mattu ginen offisiat Marianas para u suheta dididi` este na chinatsaga?

See PROTEKSION on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Obama's pivot to Asia is working

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com*

When President Obama declared in 2011 that he wanted U.S. foreign policy to pivot to Asia, some derided the move as a clumsy attempt to flee the messy conflicts of the Middle East.

But the pivot has actually worked pretty well — as will be evident when Obama travels to Asia this week. Almost every country in the region is clamoring for a closer relationship with the United States.

The most striking case is Vietnam, most of whose leaders are old enough to have fought in their country's war with the United States. The communist regime has been openly courting a deeper military relationship, and has even invited the U.S. Navy to return to Cam Ranh Bay, its base during much of the war. During his visit, Obama is expected to announce an expansion of American military sales.

The impetus for this rapprochement is China, Asia's increasingly assertive great power. Beijing's pursuit of sovereignty over the islands of the South China Sea, most of which are also claimed by other countries, has flung China's neighbors into the arms of the United States.

"Any time China tries to put its thumb on any of its neighbors, that makes them enthusiastic about getting close to us," noted Derek Chollet, a former Defense Department official.

Only a few hundred miles from Vietnam's coast, Chinese construction teams have been dredging the seafloor and using landfill techniques to increase the size of China's territories, then building infrastructure to support military facilities.

The newly-built islands aren't much use in a military conflict with the United States; U.S. Navy officers dismiss them as sitting ducks. But as military bases, they could still help Beijing intimidate weaker neighbors such as Vietnam and the Philippines.

Eventually, the islands could also enable China to assert economic rights to the estimated 11 billion barrels of oil beneath the seabed. Even fishing rights are at stake; China's fishing industry, the world's largest, employs more than 14 million people.

On a visit to Washington last year, Chinese President Xi Jinping promised not to "militarize" the islands, but he never defined what the term meant. Some Chinese officials later said Xi's policy merely banned "major offensive weapons." That created alarm in the Pentagon and prompted the Obama administration to sharpen its denunciations of the construction projects.

This is an asymmetric struggle; there aren't many practical steps the United States can take to stop China's dredging. The Pentagon sends ships near the islands to assert U.S. freedom of navigation, but that hasn't slowed the construction.

"It's not clear what else we can do," a former official told me. "We're not going to start a war, and we're not going to occupy an island ourselves."

The United States does have one asymmetric advantage of its own: its ability to forge stronger alliances with China's worried neighbors—not only Vietnam, but the Philippines, Malaysia and others as well.

A stronger Vietnamese navy — one that holds joint maneuvers with the U.S. Navy — would deny China some of the military advantage it hoped to gain from building all those airstrips.

The idea, in short, is to raise the long-term cost to Beijing. Of course, that strategy works only if the United States is willing to invest in those stronger relationships — through not only a U.S. military presence, but expanded trade agreements, too.

So Obama faces what Chollet calls a "reassurance challenge."

"All these countries are looking for reassurance that the United States will be there," he said. "They all want the United States to do more — and we can't possibly deliver everything they want."

Indeed, all three remaining candidates in the presidential campaign have been critical of the Trans Pacific Partnership, Obama's trade agreement with most of Asia except China. Donald Trump, in particular, has promised to scrap TPP if he's elected.

That would be a particularly acute problem for Vietnam, a low-income country which would be a major beneficiary of the agreement. Administration officials warn that if Congress refused to ratify TPP, Vietnam and other developing countries will have little choice but to tie their economies more closely with China's.

In other words, if Trump gets his way, the biggest beneficiary in Southeast Asia might well be China.

What's in a team's name? How about a slur?

By CLARENCE PAGE
Chicago Tribune

Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune *Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@tribune.com.*

Well, that's a relief. It turns out that Native Americans are not offended by the name of Washington's football team after all.s

You know, the Redskins.

A new *Washington Post* poll finds nine out of 10 Native Americans say they are not offended by the Washington Redskins name. That, the Post tells us, is a sign of "how few ordinary Indians" — instead of, you know, those inflammatory identity-politics activist types — "have been persuaded by a national movement to change the football team's moniker."

Actually "how few" is how I would describe the number of people surveyed. But that doesn't mean the poll wasn't scientific.

The five-month survey of 504 people, according to the Post, includes every state and the district.

It also agrees with a 2004 poll by the Annenberg Public Policy Center, the Post notes, and the responses were "broadly consistent" regardless of age, income, education, political party or proximity to reservations.

More than seven in 10 respondents said they did not feel the word "Redskin" was disrespectful to Indians and eight out of 10 said they would not be offended if a non-native called them that name.

Fine. I respect the results of the survey, even though it does not totally dampen my support for the Native American groups that pushed for the name change.

My support is pretty well known. I even became an Internet meme after a column I wrote two years ago was ridiculed, apparently by fans of the Redskins.

The NBA had banned Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling for life over his leaked racist comments.

Sterling, I reasoned, was getting punished for insults that he uttered in private — before they were leaked. Redskins owner Daniel Snyder, by contrast, was insulting Native American Indians in public every day that he refused to change his team's name.

But Snyder has rebuffed all critics with the resounding declaration that he would "NEVER," all caps, change the team's name.

Yet long-time District of Columbia sports fans were accustomed to such public-relations-sensitive name changes. Back when the Washington Bullets became an embarrassingly ironic name for the city's pro basketball team in the 1990s as the city suffered through an epidemic of gun violence-related homicides, owner Abe Pollin in 1997 changed the team's name to its present-day Wizards.

Despite some wisecracks about whether Wizards sounded like a Ku Klux Klan meeting, the new name stuck.

Weeks later I discovered that I had become an Internet meme when The People Who Have Nothing Better To Do With Their Time Than Copy-And-Paste Email Jokes, made a "Response to Clarence Page" essay go viral.

"Let's ditch the Kansas City Chiefs, the Atlanta Braves and the Cleveland Indians," the essay argues. "If your shorts are in a wad because of the reference the name Redskins makes to skin color, then we need to get rid of the Cleveland Browns."

Cute. But let's face it: Such a lunge for levity distracts from the biggest glaring offense in the Redskins' name. Unlike the Chiefs, Braves, Indians, etc., "Redskins" is a racial slur.

As Oneida Nation Representative Ray Halbritter and National Congress of American Indians Executive Director Jacqueline Pata, two early leaders of the name-change movement, responded to the poll, the results are actually "encouraging."

"Native Americans are resilient," Halbritter and Para wrote in a joint statement. "However, that proud resilience does not give the NFL a license to continue marketing, promoting and profiting off of a dictionary-defined racial slur — one that tells people outside of our community to view us as mascots."

But since this is the age of Donald Trump, thick skins and anti-political correctness, I don't expect the Redskins' name to go soon, although I have considered possible compromises.

Sportscaster Tony Kornheiser, for example, once suggested keeping the name but replacing the team's symbol with a steaming bowl of roasted red potatoes. Sounds delicious.

But, as an African-American, I would like to offer keeping the ethnic flavor but with a different color: The Washington Blackskins.

After all, if an ethnic slur really makes a cool team name, as Snyder insists, I'd love to hear what his black players, in particular, think of the honor.

VIETNAM

From Page 10

vital shipping lanes. The U.S. could supply Vietnam with patrol boats and other gear, and Cam Ranh Bay is in easy sailing distance to the Spratlys.

The hang-up in developing deeper ties with Vietnam is appearing to condone the authoritarian government's poor human rights records. Elections there are a sham. Critics face harassment or detention. We trust the president will make that point. But the U.S. also can't ignore the Chinese challenge, or a growing shared interest with Vietnam. History is forever, but time doesn't stand still.

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PROTEKSION

From Page 10

Dispues, kulan mafatañgaye na guaha 51 pot sientu gi empleau pa`gu man-mamatmos gi mafanana`an "federal poverty income level" `sino sueddon popble. Guaha `nai ma-ina este na asuntu pat mafatañgaye lokue`?

Diskuidu! Kau i chagu` hogsu` mina` no siakassu hamyu ni pinadesen i linahyan gi señgsoñg siha? Na ti man-offrese hau satbasion?

Estague` mina` ti siña kalamten. Mauleg ta ketuñgu` kau magahet na u guaha mas baratu na presium fektos pot setbisioña pat puru i man-sañgan añglu` taki uchan!

Naufragu: Hu e`ekuñgog ripot ginen Tinian gi mapos na Sabalu ginen as Señor Jeff Borja pot nina` halom-hu kehan kotte pot fondun MV Luta.

I fino`ña puru opinion ni na`gao. Taya faktu lau ha presenta kadu` faktu. Estague` `nai anog i difirensia taimanu man-ripot asuntun linahyan `nai debi todu faktu sin opinion. Kumeke ileghu ti sumaunau hau gi asuntu soluke presentasion magahet yan appruebau na faktu siha.

Lache fino`ña na salape` iya Luta i tineteka na fondu. `An magahet ennau, pues libre Luta hana setbe fondoña ni guiya mismu rumikohe ginen aduanaña (tax) mismu. Lau ginen sentrun gobietnu ni mafanana`an "NMI Resources" Debi u guaha inapprueban appropriasion ginen lehislatura. Estague` lai konstitusion señor!

Ansianu-yu` lokue` na u guaha immediatmente ayudu para iya Luta. Lau i batkun MV Luta esta dos mesis sin setbisiu gi machule` presisu siha na katgan nesessidat familia. Debi u guaha appruebau yan publikau na apas katga yan settifiku ginen i US Coast Guard. Estague` dumiteni i batku!

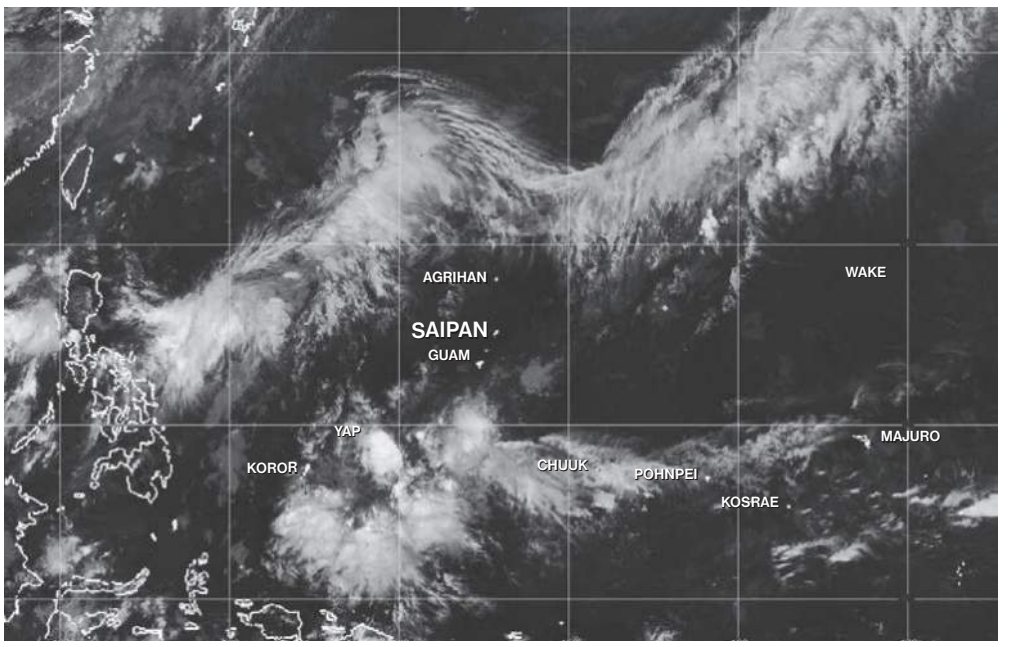
I keha pot para u guaha areglu yan proteksion gi gastun salape` taxpayers taimanu i ginagagau gi papa` konstitusion. Gobietnon lai iya Marianas ya mauleg ta komprende na este na puntu obligasion kada sudadanu.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A stationary front north of the Marianas curves southwestward from 25N165E to 21N150E then runs northwestward to beyond 24N135E east of 150E. There are scattered showers and a few thunderstorms along and up to 400 miles northwest of the front west of 150E. There are scattered showers and a few thunderstorms along and up to 100 miles North of the front. Converging southeast to south winds well west of the marianas are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 175 miles of a line from 23N139E to 15n131E. Converging trade winds and upper-level divergence are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Yap within 60 miles of 9N139E south of Guam within 70 miles of a line from 11N145E to 9N144E west of Chuuk within 60 miles of a line from 8N146E to 6N150E and near Chuuk within 50 miles of 7N152E. A trade-wind disturbance southeast of Koror is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 6n and 2n from 134e to 144e. Trade-wind showers are in patchy areas from near kosrae across the central Marshall Islands mainly between 8N and 3N from 164E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲88	▼80
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼80
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Thunderstorms	▲62	▼55
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼62
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼72
London	Cloudy	▲58	▼47
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼54
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲63	▼51
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼75
New York	Thundershowers	▲72	▼60
Osaka	Cloudy	▲81	▼69
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼52
Pusan	Sunny	▲80	▼59
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼57
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼48
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼59
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼68
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲81	▼62

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:07 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:49 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:07 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:30 PM	8:21 AM
Thursday	10:19 PM	9:13 AM
Friday	11:07 PM	10:06 AM
Saturday	11:54 PM	11:00 AM
Sunday	11:54 PM	11:00 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Ex-CIA director named to Imperial Pacific's new advisory committee

Investment giant Imperial Pacific International Holdings, Ltd. the mother company of Best Sunshine International, Ltd., announced in a May 16 filing that former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency Robert James Woolsey has been appointed independent non-executive director.

Woolsey served as CIA director between 1993 and 1995 under the administration of President Bill Clinton.

Last month Imperial Pacific announced it had established a three-member advisory committee to provide its management with "sound strategic and tactical advice." The Hong Kong-listed company named three high-profile individuals in the United States' political scene: Former Pennsylvania governor Edward Rendell; former New York governor David Paterson; and former Federal Bureau of Investigation director Louis Freeh.

In addition to heading the CIA and the intelligence community, Woolsey has held presidential appointments in two Republican and two Democratic administrations

He was ambassador to the Negotiation on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe from 1989 to 1991, under-secretary of the Navy from 1977 to 1979, and general counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services from 1970 to 1973.

James Woolsey

He was appointed by the president to serve in Geneva, Switzerland, from 1983 to 1986 as delegate-at-large to the U.S. Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) and Nuclear and Space Arms Talks (NST). As an officer in the U.S. Army, he was an adviser on the U.S. Delegation to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT I), in Helsinki and Vienna, from 1969 to 1970.

He has served on numerous government and non-profit advisory boards such as the National Commission on Energy Policy and chaired the Clean Fuels Foundation and the New Uses Council. He also served as a Trustee of Stanford University and chaired the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents of The Smithsonian Institution. He has been a member of the National Commission on Terrorism, the Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the U.S., the President's Commission on Federal Ethics Law Reform, the President's Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management, and the President's Commission on Strategic Forces.

In 2009, he was the Annenberg Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University; Woolsey received his B.A. degree from Stanford University, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa; an M.A. from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar; and an LL.B from Yale Law School, where he was managing editor of the Yale Law Journal. ***(PR)***

Golden Harvest holds Recognition and Graduation Ceremony

Golden Harvest International School and Daycare held its 2015-2016 Recognition and Graduation Ceremony at the Pedro S. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Saturday, May 21, 2016.

It had Escolastica T. Iguel as the guest speaker. In her speech, she mentioned three things: Simplicity, patience, and compassion, as the greatest treasures a student could have. There are seven graduates in Kindergarten-3, 10 graduates in Kindergarten-5, and three graduates in 6th grade.

Silver Sabrina J. Ferrera and Sebastian Dearborn L. Bernardo came out as the class salutatorians in the K-5 and 6th grade class, respectively. Carlin Mei L. Santos and Raesyl Gerard L. Solis emerged as the class valedictorians in the K-5 and 6th grade class, respectively.

School president Susan T. Deblois and school principal Adelaida L. Viloria would like to thank the parents, teachers, volunteers, and the students in general for making the affair a very memorable and enjoyable occasion.

During the occasion, the school also announced the Summer School Program: First session; June 1-30, 2016, second session, July 4-29, 2016. Courses to be offered are reading, arithmetic, writing. ***(PR)***

Golden Harvest International School and Daycare faculty pose during the school's 2015-2016 Recognition and Graduation Ceremony last Saturday at the Pedro S. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center .

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Golden Harvest International School and Daycare graduates pose during the school's 2015-2016 Recognition and Graduation Ceremony last Saturday at the Pedro S. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Former Saipan resident donates tools to NMTI

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute if you recall back in Feb. 21, 2016, was burglarized. The unsavory act was felt throughout the community as much outpour on social media followed. Many of the institute's supporters helped by letting others know that purchasing stolen goods is a crime in of itself to prevent the sale of the stolen assets. This act not only infuriated NMTI's supporters, it also attracted those that wanted to do something immediate to aid the upstart educational establishment. One particular individual that such an atrocity attracted was Lee Ivan Bowen of Missouri.

Bowen, a former Saipan resident and employee of Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research Extension & Education Services, immediately e-mailed Ross Manglona, director of Continuing Education and Workforce Development asking what was stolen from the break in. Given the list also provided to the police, Bowen went shopping online for such products. Having lived on Saipan previously, he knew shipping remains a major obstacle in the region. He ordered all of the tools via Guam's Home Depot seeing the logistics to be a little more manageable due to its vicinity. The school received the donated tools on May 18, 2016, via Triple B Forwarders. The inventory of tools donated include a jack hammer, angle grinder, plunge router with router tips, and chop saw.

Agnes McPhetres, NMTI's CEO, said, "Mr. Bowen's donation came at a rather great time. It's amazing how word got out so quickly about our recent misfortune. What's more amazing is how quickly members of our community came to our aid. In this case, a gentleman who now lives in Missouri came in our hour of need."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas Trades Institute students hold up a thank you banner to Lee Ivan Bowen after the former Saipan resident donated the tools, displayed in front, to the school.

Manglona reiterated, "That a school is only as strong as the stakeholders that comprise it. Our students and faculty are very thankful to Mr. Bowen and his family as their generosity could not be stopped by distance nor ocean as this donation was made from thousands of miles away. We must all agree that this gesture is extremely heartwarming." ***(PR)***

Kubozuka celebrates birthday on Saipan

Japanese actor Yosuke Kubozuka was on Saipan last week with *Adventure King* magazine on birthday holiday and to shoot for a 16-page article to be published on May 24, 2016.

Kubozuka stayed at Hyatt Regency Saipan, where he also celebrated his birthday with his family a day early on May 7, 2016.

The theme for shooting was "Father-Son Travel," and Kubozuka enjoyed a number of beach activities while on-island, including parasailing off of the award-winning Managaha island and snorkeling inside the Grotto, one rated as the No. 2 cavern dive in the world by *Skin Diver Magazine* with his son. The group took an off-road ATV tour, as well. Other activities included.an island tour of Saipan's historic and scenic sites, including Bird Islands Lookout, Suicide Cliff, Banzai Cliff, and the Japanese Last Command Post during World War II.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese actor Yosuke Kubozuka, center, stopped for a casual photo with Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion during a beach barbeque on May 3, 2016, at Paupau Beach while shooting *Adventure King* magazine with his family.

"Mr. Kubozuka joins a growing number of international celebrities who are finding Saipan, Tinian, and Rota an alluring place to vacation, work, and even get married," said Marianas Visitors Authority Marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "The Northern Marianas have a lot to offer the world, especially in terms of relaxation in a beautiful, clean environment. The MVA was pleased to help coordinate Mr. Kubozuka's visit through our Japan office and to facilitate the location shooting while he was here. We hope he and his family leave with many good memories."

Kubozuka also visited T-Galleria and Best Sunshine Live and enjoyed a barbeque lunch at Paupau Beach, home of the annual Plumeria Swim in Saipan that attracts swimmers and snorkelers from Japan each year. Other shooting locations included Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, Moby Dick's, and Herman Modern Bakery.

Adventure King is a free monthly magazine featuring in-depth interview with celebrities and athletes. With a circulation of 80,000, it targets readers in their 20s to 40s who like to travel and live a cutting-edge lifestyle, also featuring fashion, culture, and travel destinations. ***(PR)***

Bridge Investment employees attend crane refresher course

SAN JOSE, Tinian— Bridge Investment Group sent two of its employees on May 14, 2016, to Guam to attend the mobile crane refresher course. Heavy equipment supervisor, Joseph Villagomez and heavy equipment operator, Steve Mendiola, were selected to attend the training. The fundamentals of crane operation such as how to lift a load safely can help prevent accidents and increase job site efficiency.

Island CERTS Corporation provides construction equipment regulatory testing service. The corporation also inspects heavy equipment, trains equipment operators, conducts weld inspections, and does tension tests. The specific course conducted was intended to refresh and expand the knowledge of the participants who were present. Instructor Dave Barnhouse, Guam's practical examiner for the Crane Institute of America and NCCCO (National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators), touched base on how to properly manage your load, safety, distance, familiarization of the crane chart, riggings, and the different types of crane. Villagomez and Mendiola were given a test after the training, both passed and received a certificate of completion for the 8-hour educational course as well as a mobile crane operator trainee card. The next step toward being a certified crane operator for these individuals is completing a thousand hours of handling and operating a crane followed by having an instructor on site to administer the hands on test which will be the determining factor.

"I feel great, but I had to set that aside and prove myself worthy that they chose me for a reason. The sky is the limit, so why not push yourself to do bigger and greater things. Bridge Investment gave us an opportunity by hiring us and going as far as providing the right trainings for their employees. If it wasn't for BIG we probably wouldn't have been given this chance. It is a great honor and I will be forever grateful!" said Mendiola

Bridge Investment Group will continue its commitment to motivate and empower its employees. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Investment Group heavy equipment supervisor Joseph Villagomez and operator Steve Mendiola pose for a photo with the 30-ton crane and their certificates.

Caravan becomes Certified Angus Beef provider

Caravan of Food's Middle Eastern Restaurant recently joined the collection of elite restaurants to exclusively use Certified Angus Beef. One of the only "farm-to-table" healthy choices on Saipan, Caravan can now exclusively offer beef, which trusted brand has been supplying the island for over 20 years.

Salam Younis, the manager of Caravan, stated, "We wanted to start serving Certified Angus Beef not just because the quality of the brand matches our mission statement but also customers were asking for it."

Salam's father Abed E. Younis first opened Caravan in 2012. The elder Younis, a native of Palestine, wanted to share the recipes of his native lands and his passion for hearty, healthy food. After Soudelor, the family decided to transition the bakery into a fast, casual-style restaurant and expanded the menu. The current location has been open since November 2015.

Using Certified Angus Beef has increased business. When asked if he could tell a difference in the taste Salam stated, "Definitely. And our customers do to, the beef sales have really picked up." Signature beef dishes include, the Kabob plate, which is grounded CAB chuck shoulder and a special blend of spices, grilled with olive oil and served on top of Basmati rice with a side salad. Beef Shawarma, CAB top sirloin traditionally roasted on a slow rotating rotisserie, sliced thin with choice of veggies and pita bread topped with house made tahini. The house specialty is the Maqluba, a layer of seasoned meat, veggies, and rice cooked together in a pot and then flipped over.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Caravan of Food's Middle Eastern Restaurant Salam Younis, second from left, poses with staff while samples of their dishes with Certified Angus Beef are shown on the table.

Caravan is located on Alaihai Avenue in Garapan next to the *Marianas Variety* offices. Open Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. ***(PR)***

Supreme Court to consider petition in birthright citizenship case

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Samoan Federation of America President Loa Pele Faletogo.

Prominent Supreme Court attorney Theodore B. Olson yesterday filed a reply brief before the Supreme Court in Tuaua v. United States, a case addressing birthright citizenship and whether the Insular Cases should continue to be relied upon to deny constitutional rights in U.S. territories.

Seeking review before the court are a group of passport-holding Americans, born in American Samoa, who are denied recognition as U.S. citizens by federal statute—even as American Samoa has the highest rate of military service in the nation.

Last June, the D.C. Circuit held in an opinion authored by Judge Janice Rogers Brown, and joined by Senior Judges Laurence H. Silberman and David B. Sentelle, that the meaning of the Citizenship Clause was "ambiguous" as to whether its guarantee of birthright citizenship applied in overseas U.S. territories. The panel's opinion also broadly expanded the reach of the Insular Cases, a series of controversial Plessy-era decisions that were grounded in racial bias. In doing so, it held that rights recognized as "fundamental" in other parts of the United States may not apply in so-called "unincorporated" U.S. territories, a label created by the Supreme Court in the Insular Cases based on its view that these islands were populated by "alien races" with "fierce, savage and restless people."

"That the government is forced to rely on a radical enlargement of the Insular Cases to justify denying application of the Citizenship Clause in U.S. territories speaks to the importance of Supreme Court review," said Mr. Olson, who represents the Tuaua petitioners. "We hope that the Supreme Court will accept review to once again make clear that Congress has no power to turn off or redefine the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship."

"The Supreme Court has the opportunity now to once again make clear that the Citizenship Clause means what it says and to finally turn the page on the Insular Cases, which are relics of another era," said Neil Weare, who argued the case before the D.C. Circuit, and is President and Founder of We the People Project, a non-profit organization that advocates for equal rights and representation for the over 4 million Americans living in U.S. territories. "Failure to grant review would place at risk the citizenship status and constitutional rights of more than 4 million Americans who live in U.S. territories."

Earlier this month, the Solicitor General filed a brief arguing against Supreme Court review, relying in significant part on an Insular Cases opinion by Justice Henry Billings Brown—author of Plessy v. Ferguson—that did not receive the support of a single other Justice.

» Historic opportunity for reconsideration of the Plessy-Era Insular Cases

Also filing a brief against review of the DC Circuit decision was Professor John Eastman on behalf of scholars at the Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence, who have also spoken publicly about their support of Presidential candidate Donald Trump's extreme views on birthright citizenship.

In March, an ideologically diverse array of academics, current and former officials from Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and civil rights groups filed a total of seven amicus briefs urging the Supreme Court to grant review. These amici are represented by top national law firms and Supreme Court advocates.

The American Samoa government also filed a brief earlier this month opposing Supreme Court review based on the mistaken belief that recognition of citizenship would threaten cultural preservation laws—an experience not borne out in other territories where birthright citizenship is recognized by statute (as explained by amici from those areas). American Samoa's current leaders also fail to recognize that attempts by American Samoa to seek legislative recognition of birthright citizenship decades earlier were unsuccessful.

"When our forefathers ceded sovereignty to the United States, they believed that in return we would be recognized and respected as U.S. citizens on equal status with other Americans. With Congress rejecting earlier attempts by our people to be recognized as citizens, the Supreme Court now has the opportunity, and I dare say even the responsibility, to answer whether our leaders were right," said Charles Ala'ilima, a prominent American Samoan attorney who also represents the Tuaua petitioners.

Absent review by the Supreme Court, plaintiffs living in Washington State, Hawaii, and California will be unable to exercise their right to vote, even though they hold a U.S. passport. Loa Pele Faletogo, president of the L.A.-based Samoan Federation of America, a plaintiff in the case, explained, "If the Supreme Court does not take our case, the only way thousands of passport-holding, tax-paying American Samoans living in communities throughout the nation will be able to exercise their right to vote will be through the naturalization process. With naturalization costing nearly $700 and requiring a civics exam, these barriers to citizenship and voting rights amount to a poll tax and literacy test all rolled into one."

The case has received significant commentary, including by Prof. Noah Feldman (here) and Prof. Steve Vladeck (here), among others. The case has also been featured in a Harvard Law School conference/book "Reconsidering the Insular Cases."

HBO's John Oliver also featured the case in a segment cited by the Ninth Circuit for its criticism of the Insular Cases (here). A mini-documentary released last year also explores the real-world impacts the denial of citizenship has had on American Samoan veterans living in the Los Angeles area.

Attached is the reply, petition for certiorari (which includes the decisions below) and other recent briefs; all the briefing is available here. An FAQ about the case is available here. ***(PR)***

Spectacular opening for Festival of Pacific Arts in Guam

HAGATNA, Guam—The curtain has been raised on the biggest celebration of the Pacific region's diverse cultural heritage, with the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts under way in Guam following a spectacular opening ceremony last Sunday.

The region's premiere cultural event, first held in 1972, has a long and distinguished history that the Pacific Community (SPC), as custodian, is proud to be closely associated with.

"During Festpac we will realize that despite our differences, we are one people of the Pacific. This united spirit of the Pacific will make it clear to the rest of the world who we are," Guam's First Lady and Honorary Chair of the Festival Organizing Committee, Christine Calvo, said during the seven-hour ceremony in the capital, Hagatna, on Sunday.

"It's an honor to bring together our brothers and sisters for one of the largest events in Guam's history. I want to thank SPC and their officials for letting us share our home and our history," the First Lady said.

Behind the scenes, years of tireless preparations have been under way to ensure that the Festival is enjoyable and safe for the 25 Pacific Island national delegations and thousands of visitors coming to Guam's shores for the two-week celebration.

"FestPac 2016 has an ambitious program and we acknowledge also the great care Guam has taken in preparing its own delegates and volunteers in revitalizing Chamorro culture," the director of SPC's Social Development Programme, Letuala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago-Elisara, said during the opening.

"FestPac 2016 has attracted important arts and culture organizations from Asia, Europe, and the ACP region, who will participate in the forums, symposiums and market events which will take place over the next two weeks. This demonstrates the Festival's increasingly important international reach, and the growing interest in Pacific arts and culture worldwide," she said.

SPC is providing technical assistance to the Guam Organising Committee and government agencies in the areas of biosecurity, health surveillance, broadcasting and interpretation.

As visitor arrivals to Guam rise significantly for the festival, so too does the risk of exotic pests and disease entering the country.

A team of four Biosecurity experts from SPC's offices in Suva, Fiji, and Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia is working with Guam Agriculture Quarantine and other relevant departments to provide technical support for customs and clearance of delegations and their cultural artifacts and cargo; quarantine awareness and collaborative support for surveillance activities.

Public health surveillance will be enhanced during the Festival to ensure the health security of delegates, visitors and local population of the host nation.

A team from SPC's Public Health Division, led by acting Deputy-Director, Dr. Salanieta Saketa, conducted training for surveillance focal points and is supporting the implementation of enhanced web-based surveillance from 16 May until 10 June.

The enhanced surveillance system developed by SPC is designed to ensure early detection of and prompt response to outbreaks of infectious disease and other public health events.

Other public health support includes assistance with finalizing a monitoring and evaluation framework for Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services Surveillance and Response Work-Plan as well as ensuring a proper and effective response to alerts and signals arising during surveillance.

A five-person television crew from SPC's Communications and Public Information team, best known for producing The Pacific Way show, is working with the Organising Committee and the national broadcaster, PBS Guam, to assist with live coverage of the opening and closing ceremonies and a daily half-hour highlights package which will be made available to broadcasters across the Pacific.

Additionally, SPC is assisting the FestPac Committee with translation and interpretation services.

Since its inaugural staging in 1972, the Festival of Pacific Arts has honored and celebrated the rich diversity of Pacific peoples and provided an opportunity to share the region's cultural knowledge and traditions.

For more on the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts, visit the official website: https://festpac.visitguam.com/. More details of SPC's technical assistance is available at http://www.spc.int/en/festival-of-pacific-arts.html. ***(PR)***

Business

High court ruling helps federal workers file job bias claims

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court is making it easier for federal workers to file employment discrimination lawsuits after quitting their jobs over conditions they consider intolerable.

The justices ruled 7-1 Monday that workers who bring so-called "constructive discharge" claims have 45 days from the time they resign to begin the process. The court rejected the Justice Department's position that the clock should start running when the alleged abuse occurs.

The ruling gives employees more time to bring bias lawsuits for discriminatory acts that occurred months or years before legal action begins.

The court sided with Marvin Green, a former Colorado postmaster who says he was forced to quit his job due to racial discrimination. A federal appeals court dismissed Green's case after ruling that he waited too long to file a complaint.

Writing for the high court, Justice Sonia Sotomayor said Green's lawsuit was filed within the 45-day time period because the clock didn't start running until he actually resigned from his post.

Sotomayor said the ruling makes practical sense because some employees might delay resigning until they can afford to leave or for other reasons.

The case is important to federal workers, who aren't permitted to file an employment discrimination lawsuit until they first file an administrative claim with their agency. But the internal claim must be filed "within 45 days of the date of the matter alleged to be discriminatory."

The ruling resolves a split among lower courts about when the 45-day clock starts running for federal employees to notify their employers about the claims.

Justice Clarence Thomas, the Supreme Court's only black justice, dissented, saying his colleagues have misread the statute. Thomas said it refers to conduct by the employer, not a worker's decision to quit his job.

Green, who is black, was serving as postmaster general in Englewood, Colorado, in 2008 when he decided to apply for a similar post in Boulder. After he was turned down, he contacted a Postal Service counselor to investigate whether race played a factor.

Court reinstates lawsuits alleging collusion by big banks

NEW YORK (AP)—Lawsuits against 16 of the world's largest banks alleging they colluded to manipulate the primary benchmark for global short-term interest rates have been reinstated by a federal appeals court that found Monday that a judge had rejected the litigation too quickly.

Saying it wasn't a close call, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan restored lawsuits seeking billions of dollars in damages brought by investors in financial instruments mostly issued by the banks. The financial instruments carried interest rates tied to the London Interbank Offered Rate known as LIBOR. LIBOR is used by banks to borrow from each other and affects trillions of dollars in contracts around the world, including mortgages, bonds and consumer loans.

The lawsuits in Manhattan federal court had been dismissed by a judge who reasoned that the LIBOR-rate setting process was collaborative rather than competitive. The judge also found any manipulation of the rates did not cause investors anticompetitive harm.

But the appeals court said in a ruling written by Circuit Judge Dennis Jacobs that the lawsuits were dismissed at such an early stage that the plaintiffs did not yet have a chance to try to prove that the banks used LIBOR in setting rates for lending transactions. The 2nd Circuit said that and other questions could only be "properly analyzed" at a later stage in the litigation.

The three-judge panel said the claims of the plaintiffs had to be taken as true at this stage of the litigation and they had "plausibly alleged both antitrust violation and antitrust injury."

Robert F. Wise Jr., a lawyer for the banks, said it was too early to comment on the decision.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Detroit muscle cars aren't so strong in crash tests

DETROIT (AP)—Muscle cars may look cool, but they don't offer the best protection in a crash. The Ford Mustang, Chevrolet Camaro and Dodge Challenger didn't get the highest ratings in new tests by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. The institute, which is funded by insurers, tested 2016 models. The Mustang earned the highest rating on four of the five tests, but didn't do as well on the small overlap test, which simulates what happens when a small portion of the car's front end hits a pole at 40 miles per hour. The Camaro did well on that test but had a lower rating for roof strength. The Challenger was the worst performer, with lower ratings for roof strength, seat and headrest strength and the small overlap test.

IMF calls for 'unconditional' debt relief for Greece

WASHINGTON (AP)—The International Monetary Fund is calling on European creditor nations to commit to "upfront unconditional" debt relief for Greece as part of an international rescue program for the debt-laden nation. The IMF is involved in talks on making Greece's debt sustainable to approve the country's latest reforms and make new loans available. In an analysis released Monday, the Washington-based lender says that debt relief is "critical" to show markets that Greece's creditors are committed to helping it navigate the crisis. The statement comes a day ahead of a meeting among Europe's top officials in Brussels to discuss the issue.

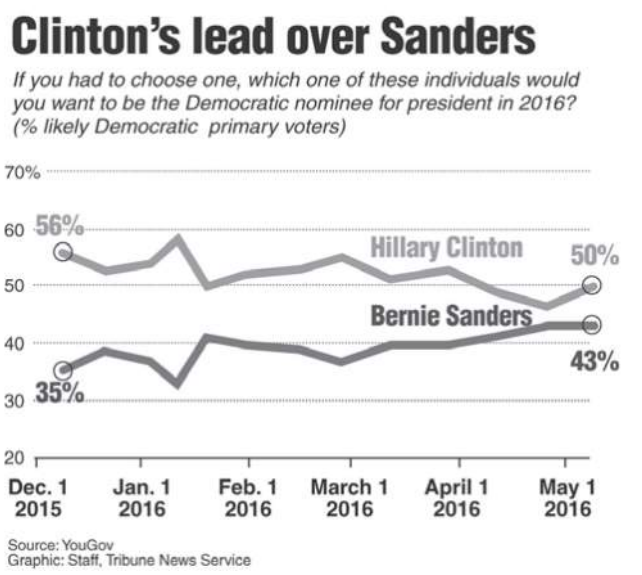
Facebook makes changes to 'trending topics' after review

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Facebook says it is dropping its reliance on news outlets to help determine what gets posted as a "trending topic" on the giant social network following a backlash over a report saying it suppressed conservative views. Facebook's General Counsel Colin Stretch outlined this and other reforms in a 12-page letter sent Monday to Republican Sen. John Thune, chairman of the commerce committee, which oversees the Internet and consumer protections. Facebook didn't say why it would stop looking to news outlets like The Wall Street Journal, Huffington Post and Drudge Report to automatically nominate topics for its trending feature. As part of a review, the company found that topics could be temporarily suppressed if news outlets weren't reporting on them enough.

Nation

Sanders: Democratic Party convention could be 'messy'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bernie Sanders predicted Monday that the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia could be "messy" as he pushed the party to adopt his progressive agenda, but added, "Democracy is not always nice and quiet and gentle."



The Democratic presidential candidate said in an interview with The Associated Press that his supporters hoped to see a platform at the July convention that reflects the needs of working families, the poor and young people as opposed to one that represents Wall Street and corporate America.

The Vermont senator said he will "condemn any and all forms of violence" but his campaign was bringing in newcomers to the process and first-time attendees of political conventions. He said the Democratic Party could choose to be more inclusive.

"I think if they make the right choice and open the doors to working-class people and young people and create the kind of dynamism that the Democratic Party needs, it's going to be messy," Sanders said. "Democracy is not always nice and quiet and gentle but that is where the Democratic Party should go."

Head of TSA security operations removed from position

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House committee said Monday that the head of security operations at the Transportation Security Administration has been replaced.

"Kelly Hoggan has been removed from his position as head of security at TSA," the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform posted on Twitter.

Meanwhile, The Associated Press obtained a memo sent by TSA Administrator Peter Neffenger that does not mention Hoggan but names a temporary replacement.

"Darby LaJoye will serve as the Acting Assistant Administrator of the Office of Security Operations," Neffenger wrote in the memo addressed to TSA senior leaders. "Darby LaJoye is an experienced Federal Security Director with successful leadership tours at two of the nation's largest airports, Los Angeles International Airport in California and John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York."

The oversight committee said Hoggan received more than $90,000 in bonuses over a period from late 2013 to late 2014.

About a year later, a report from the Homeland Security Inspector General's office revealed that agency employees failed to find explosives, weapons and other dangerous items in more than 95 percent of covert tests at multiple U.S. airports.

That report and allegations of other mismanagement within TSA have drawn congressional scrutiny and promoted multiple hearings on Capitol Hill.

Hoggan's ouster also comes amid growing concerns of massive security lines at airports this summer. The long lines have been blamed in part on more travelers during the busy summer travel season and a shortage of screening officers manning checkpoints.

Texas immigration facility to house transgender detainees

DALLAS (AP)—A detention facility for immigrants set to open later this year in Texas will include a special unit for transgender people, the second of its kind in the federal system.

The privately-run facility under construction in Alvarado, Texas, southwest of Dallas, will include 36 beds for transgender detainees, according to a statement Monday from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The facility is expected to open in November.

The only other such space, in Santa Ana, California, held 28 transgender people last week, according to the agency. City officials in Santa Ana have considered ending their agreement with ICE to house detainees. ICE could not provide the number of transgender people being detained in the entire system.

The agency didn't provide details about how the facility for transgender detainees would be different than other centers, and a regional ICE spokesman declined to make officials available for an interview.

Advocates say transgender immigrants often face particular challenges, including a higher risk of sexual assault, an inability to get hormone replacement treatments, and dealing with guards unfamiliar with gender identity issues.

A March report by Human Rights Watch on transgender people in immigration found that more than half of 28 women identified in the report were held in men's facilities at some point during their detention. Half were held in solitary confinement.

According to the report, one Honduran woman held at a detention center in Arizona reported being raped by three men and then being told by a guard, "You are the ones that cause these problems and always call the men's attention."

Asia

Duterte amenable to Marcos burial at heroes' cemetery

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The presumptive Philippine president-elect said Monday he will allow the immediate burial of former dictator Ferdinand Marcos at a heroes' cemetery and will support the release of ex-President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo from detention on corruption charges, in moves likely to spark anti-government protests.

Rodrigo Duterte, who won the May 9 presidential election with a large margin based on an unofficial tally, has been outlining his plans at a series of news conferences. He is due to be inaugurated as president on June 30 at the end of outgoing leader Benigno Aquino III's six-year term.

Asked if he is ready to face street protests for making such politically sensitive decisions, Duterte said he would allow the rallies, even if they drag on for weeks.

Duterte, 71, told reporters that Marcos deserves to be buried at the heroes' cemetery because he was once a soldier and not because he was a hero. He said the burial, opposed by Aquino, left-wing groups and nationalists, has divided Filipinos for far too long.

Marcos' followers in northern Ilocos Norte province, where his preserved body is displayed in a glass coffin, have been angered by his fate, Duterte said. By allowing him to be buried at the heroes' cemetery in metropolitan Manila, "I would erase from amongst our people one hatred," he said.

Aquino and other Marcos opponents have cited massive graft and human-rights violations during Marcos' administration as reasons for refusing such a burial. Marcos was ousted in a 1986 "people power" revolt.

Duterte argued that those buried at the cemetery were not all heroes, and said he would leave it up to the military whether to bestow full funeral honors. Such a burial, he said, "can be arranged immediately."

Asked about speculation that the burial might take place on Marcos' birthday on Sept. 11, Duterte replied that he was OK with that date.

Duterte, the crime-fighting mayor of southern Davao City and a former government prosecutor, said he would support Arroyo's release from hospital detention because he thought the case against her is weak. He said he offered to pardon the former president in a recent telephone conversation but she refused.

"I said 'Ma'am, you want me to pardon you? It's not because we are friends but because I do not think that there is a good case against you,'" Duterte said.

He said Arroyo refused the offer because she said that would require she admit wrongdoing and she wasn't guilty of any crime. Duterte said he told her that he would support her if she applied for bail, and that her long detention, partly caused by trial delays, was a ground for dismissal of her case because of constitutional guarantees of fast and fair trials.

Obama reaches out to people a day after Vietnam arms deal

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—After knocking down one of the last vestiges of Cold War antagonism with a former war enemy, President Barack Obama on Tuesday took his push for closer ties directly to the Vietnamese people, meeting with activists and entrepreneurs. Amid the geopolitical statecraft, he faces calls to more strongly address what's seen as an abysmal human rights record.

Obama spoke with 10 activists Tuesday, including advocates for the disabled, sexual minorities, a pastor and advocates for freedom of speech, press and the Internet, but he said that several others were prevented from coming.

"Vietnam has made remarkable strides in many ways," Obama said, but "there are still areas of significant concern."

He was to give a speech aimed at the people of Vietnam a day after announcing the lifting of a five-decade-old arms sales embargo that's meant to help forge a new economic and security relationship with this young, fast-growing Southeast Asian nation.

Obama must balance a desire for a stronger relationship with efforts to hold its communist leadership to account over what activists say is the widespread abuse of dissidents.

From Hanoi, Obama was to fly Tuesday to Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon. He planned a visit to the Jade Pagoda, considered one of the most beautiful pagodas in southern Vietnam and a repository of religious documents that includes more than 300 statues and other relics.

Shifting from the historical to the modern, Obama also planned to visit the Dreamplex business complex in downtown Ho Chi Minh City, a space for startup entrepreneurs that fits with Obama's message about the potential benefits of closer ties to Vietnam's growing economy and its burgeoning middle class.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Insect poop threatens to damage marble at India's Taj Mahal

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—Swarms of insects breading in a polluted river near the Taj Mahal are threatening the intricate marble inlay work at the 17th century monument to love by leaving green and black patches of waste on its walls, archaeological experts said Monday. Workers scrub the walls clean every day, but the regular scrubbing can damage the floral mosaics and shiny marble surface, said Bhuvan Vikram of the Archaeological Survey of India. "A series of marble panels depicting plant motifs on the walls or reflective tiles used in this part of the monument are becoming disfigured," Vikram said.

Seoul: Overseas N. Korean restaurant workers flee

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Seoul says an unspecified number of North Koreans working at a Pyongyang-run restaurant overseas have escaped their workplace and will come to South Korea. The announcement by Seoul's Unification Ministry Tuesday came after South Korean media reported two to three employees at a North Korean-run restaurant in China fled and went to an unidentified Southeast Asian country earlier this month. A brief ministry statement confirmed that some North Korean restaurant workers fled. The unification and foreign ministries refused to provide further details about the North Koreans and their escapes, citing concerns about their safety. It's unclear when they will arrive in Seoul. In April, a group of 13 North Koreans who had worked at a North Korean-run restaurant in the eastern Chinese city of Ningbo defected to South Korea.

World

IS attacks undermine Iraqi state in war weary capital

BAGHDAD (AP)—Even as Iraq slowly claws back territory from the Islamic State group, faith in the government is crumbling among many, particularly the country's Shiites, angered by political disarray and the continual pounding of the capital, Baghdad, by militants' bombings.

AP

In this Tuesday, May 17, 2016, file photo, a masked member of an Iraqi Shiite fighters militant group called Kataib Peace Brigades, a Shiite militia group loyal to Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, center, carries his militant flag as he takes to the street after a suicide car bombing hit a crowded outdoor market in Baghdad's eastern Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City, Iraq.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi triumphantly announced the beginning of operations to retake the IS-held city Fallujah, promising over the weekend that "the Iraqi flag will rise high" once more over the city. On Monday, Iraqi forces backed by U.S. warplanes battled the militants on the outskirts of Fallujah, a major prize that has been held for more than two years by the Islamic State group.

But in Baghdad, many residents are still reeling from a stunning barrage of suicide attacks the previous week that hit crowded markets, checkpoints a restaurant, a cafe and a gas plant killing more than 200 people, largely in Shiite areas. Rather than sow fear, the attacks seemed to stoke anger, particularly at the political elite.

Hundreds of protesters, including families of victims from the bombings, stormed Baghdad's fortified Green Zone on Friday, demanding better security and government reform. Iraqi forces fired tear gas and live ammunition on the crowds, and the violence left two protesters dead and a number of military personnel wounded in knife attacks. It was the second time in a month that protesters have broken into the zone, where the government is headquartered.

The rising tempers are spilling over into potentially dangerous divisions among Iraq's powerful Shiite militias. The two protests inside the Green Zone were dominated by followers of influential cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who has led a campaign of anti-government protests, initially demanding government reform, but now also calling for accountability in light of security breaches that allowed IS to carry out the wave of recent attacks.

Investigators search wreckage of EgyptAir plane, test DNA

CAIRO (AP)—A French ship joined the international effort to hunt for the black boxes and other wreckage of EgyptAir Flight 804 Monday, searching for clues to what brought the plane down, as Greek and Egyptian authorities diverged on what happened to the plane during the crucial final minutes before it crashed into the Mediterranean, killing all 66 people on board.

Five days after the air disaster, questions remain over what happened to the doomed jet before it disappeared off radar at around 2.45 a.m. local time Thursday.

Egyptian authorities said they believe terrorism is a more likely explanation than equipment failure, and some aviation experts have said the erratic flight reported by the Greek defense minister suggests a bomb blast or a struggle in the cockpit. But so far no hard evidence has emerged.

A 2013 report by the Egyptian ministry of civil aviation records that the same Airbus 320 made an emergency landing in Cairo that year, shortly after taking off on its way to Istanbul, when one of the engines "overheated." Aviation experts have said that overheating is uncommon yet is highly unlikely to cause a crash.

Greek authorities begin evacuation of Idomeni refugee camp

IDOMENI, Greece (AP)—Greek authorities began an operation at dawn Tuesday to gradually evacuate the country's largest informal refugee camp of Idomeni on Macedonian border, blocking access to the area and sending in more than 400 riot police.

The government's spokesman for the refugee crisis, Giorgos Kyritsis, said Monday that police would not use force, and that the operation was expected to last about a week to 10 days.

The camp, which sprung up on what began as an informal pedestrian border crossing for refugees and migrants heading north to Europe, is home to an estimated 8,400 people. Greek police and government authorities have said the residents will be moved gradually to newly completed, organized camps. Journalists were barred from the camp, stopped at a police roadblock a few kilometers (miles) away on a highway junction leading to the nearby village of Idomeni. Twenty buses carrying various riot police units were seen heading to the area while a police helicopter observed from above.

More than 54,000 refugees and migrants have been trapped in financially struggling Greece since Balkan and European countries shut their land borders to a massive flow of people escaping war and poverty at home. The vast majority are from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. Nearly a million people have passed through Greece, the vast majority arriving on islands from the nearby Turkish coast.

Good Housekeeping

Diggin' In: Too much water unhealthy for plants and house

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS

The word "drainage" is a word you either hate or love. Excessive water around a house and garden is bad for everything — plants and home.

Poor drainage around a house is often the contractor's failure to properly grade the structure once construction is finished.

Your lot should be graded to drain surface water away from foundation walls, according to Jamison Brown of Home Inspections by Jamison & Co. in Poquoson, Va. — http://jamisonhomeinspections.com.

A good grade slopes a minimum of six inches within the first 10 feet; when that's not possible, drains or swales can be constructed to get the job done.

"Faulty or reverse lot grade allows roof water run-off to flow back toward the home where it can wash out the soil around the foundation and lead to foundation failure, over the long term," says Brown, who has been inspecting homes for 28 years.

"During the short term, water that gains access to the soil in the crawl space allows wood destroying fungi to form. A wet crawl space can lead to distorted framing and flooring, and creates an environment conducive to termite infestation."

CRAWL SPACE WOES

Ground water is the main cause of moisture-related problems in the crawl space, according to Kimberly Houston, president of Colonial Exterminating — www.colonialext.com — in Newport News, Va.

"High moisture leads to fungal growth and damages," she says.

"It also invites many pests, including termites.

"Some good options to improve drainage around your home include: install gutters and downspouts, keep gutters and downspouts clean of debris and grade soil away from your home's foundation."

PHOTOS BY TNS

Joe-pye weed and cardinal flower are native plants that prefer moist to wet, well-draining soil. The plants also benefit bees and butterflies.

UNDERGROUND FIXES

In Virginia Beach, Va., Steve Nassan tackles yards that are too wet from expansive roofs dumping hundreds of gallons of water every time it rains. Unbelievably so, for every one inch of rain that falls on a 1,000-square-foot roof, expect 600 gallons of water to flow onto your yard's surface, according to drainage experts.

To get that massive amount of rain water away from a home's foundation, Nassan installs Speedy Basin Drain Systems with collection boxes located in the lowest areas of the yard. The collection boxes and PVC connectors on gutter downspouts feed the water into four-inch, no-hole flexible pipes that flow to strategically placed pop-up drains. The system is customized to meet the yard's size and configuration.

"More than 80 percent of my business is drainage systems," says Nassan, who owns A-1 Lawn and Landscaping Services — www.a-1lawnandlandscaping.com.

Steve Nassan of A-1 Lawn and Landscaping Services checks on a crew member digging a drain line that will feed downspout water underground and away from the house.

Solid four-inch drain pipe will go underground to direct water away from the house's foundation.

"Standing water around a house is bad for the foundation. It can cause the house to settle, compromising the foundation and possibly leading to cracks. Too much water around plants can cause roots to rot and kill plants.

The Sped Basin Drain System takes care of all that.

"French drains work in the beginning but dirt, grass clippings, etc., start to get into the gravel, causing the water to slow down going into the pipe."

In addition to downspouts, your AC drain line can also feed into the underground pipes. Central air-conditioning systems can easily collect 10, 15 or 20 gallons of water daily, depending on the size of the house and system cooling it. Consider directing that water away from your foundation, at least to a gardening area where moisture-loving plants can drink it up.

RAIN GARDENS & BARRELS

Water from gutter downspouts or an AC drain pipe can also be directed to planting areas called "rain gardens." Simply put, a rain garden is a special spot that collects water for plants to drink. Usually, any clay or bad soil is excavated to a depth of about 30 inches. A shallow layer, or about six inches, of gravel is placed in the bottom. Fill the area with good, porous soil, install your moisture-loving plants and mulch generously.

Rain gardens can also be used to collect water from low-lying hard surfaces like driveways and walkways.

Rain barrels attached to downspouts are the easiest and most effective ways for catching rainwater from your roof. Water collected in those barrels can be used to water plants, wash off garden tools or moisten your compost pile.

Barrels with spigots can be purchased at garden centers and hardware stores.

Build your own rain barrel with directions from AskHRgreen.org, a public awareness of 17 Hampton Roads Virginia city and county governments and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, at http://askhrgreen.org/how-to-build-a-rain-barrel.

Learn more about rain garden design and usage with AskHRgreen.org at http://askhrgreen.org/rain-gardens and the Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Virginia Beach at www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/hampton-roads/gardens/rain-garden/index.html.

Joe-pye weed and cardinal flower are native plants that prefer moist to wet, well-draining soil. The plants also benefit bees and butterflies.

Living Smart: How much does it cost to install countertops?

TNS

Several factors influence the per-square-foot price of countertops.

By OSEYE BOYD
ANGIE'S LIST

While looking for new countertops, you find an amazing deal on granite for $29.99 per square foot.

Yes, score!

That sounds super-affordable, and once you measure your current countertops and calculate the square footage, you'll have the price for installing new countertops, right?

Not so fast, say countertop installers.

PRICING FACTORS FOR COUNTERTOPS

"Some people charge for an edge and some don't, depending on what you select," says Gary Rogers, owner of AGS Stone & Tampa Bay Kitchen and Bath of Tampa, Florida. "Edge selection is going to impact price of the countertop. In our price, we include five standard edge detail options; some companies, each edge has its own price."

The real countertop installation cost not only includes the price of the material, but also the price for the tear out, modifications, edging and sealing, as well as cutouts for outlets, sinks and plumbing. Depending on the contractor, these costs may or may not be included in the per-square-foot cost of materials.

Troy Hansen, owner of Hansen's Custom Countertop Services of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, says it's extremely important to ask what's included in the square-foot price. "That's the No. 1 question you have to know."

GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AND QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS

Material costs also vary depending on the quality and color. Granite, a natural stone, and quartz, an engineered stone, include two of the most popular countertop types.

Countertop installers say cheap granite could signal the product has blemishes and may crack over time.

"There's only three things that make up the cost of granite — the supply and demand, the part of the world it comes from and how hard it is to excavate from the earth," says Dave Carver of Jim Carver & Sons of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Carver says his entry-level granite countertops cost $50 to $55 per square foot, while basic quartz countertops typically cost $75 to $85 per square foot.

Hansen says his basic granite countertops start around $60 to $65 per square foot, while entry-level quartz runs in the high $70 range. He says homeowners need to know the origin of the granite they plan to purchase. Highly discounted granite countertops may come from a warehouse with a huge stockpile of inferior product.

"You need to know the origin of the granite," Hansen warns. "Because it says Brazil in the name doesn't mean it came from Brazil. You need to see the paper work. If they don't have the paper work, you don't want it."

Both Hansen and Rogers say the best way to calculate the cost of installing kitchen countertops is to draw a sketch of your kitchen, include all the features you want, such as backsplash, type of edging and material thickness and take the measurements to a countertop contractor.

"Shop that," Hansen says. "Don't worry about the square foot cost because that's such a small part of it. Unless you know what's included in the square foot, it's so irrelevant."

Life & Style

Review: 'X-Men: Apocalypse' satisfies in superhero summer

By SANDY COHEN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

It's a bit of bad timing for "X-Men: Apocalypse" coming third in this summer's superhero lineup.

Director Bryan Singer invigorates his latest X-Men film with vintage 1980s charm in an origin story about how the mutant supergroup unites and divides in response to the villain Apocalypse. And while battles between heroes are an X-Men tradition, warring among the ranks has become a superhero trope this season, at play in both Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" and "Captain America: Civil War."

Like similarly dressed beauties in celebrity magazines, it becomes a case of who wore it better, and that's an unfair burden on what is ultimately a satisfying conclusion to the rebooted trilogy. Even with an ensemble that includes Jennifer Lawrence and Michael Fassbender and Poe from "Star Wars" (Oscar Isaac, unrecognizable as Apocalypse), it can't match the magic of the latest Avengers movie, with multiple characters carefully inter-developed over a dozen films.

"X-Men: Apocalypse" is also a prequel, so the fate of its characters isn't a mystery.

That's not to say "Apocalypse" isn't a fun flick on its own. It has a grand scope, great special effects and doesn't require knowledge of its predecessors to enjoy. Those who know the characters get even more payoff.

As hinted at during the credits for 2014's "X-Men: Days of Future Past," this film brings on Apocalypse, a super-powered mutant who can transfer his essence from one being to another and was revered as a god when he existed millennia ago.

AP

In this image released by Twentieth Century Fox, Tye Sheridan, left, and Sophie Turner appear in a scene from, "X-Men: Apocalypse."

Cosby due in court in Pennsylvania sex-assault case

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Bill Cosby is due in Pennsylvania court Tuesday morning for a key hearing in his criminal sex-assault case.

The preliminary hearing will determine whether prosecutors have enough evidence to send the 78-year-old entertainer to trial.

Cosby is accused of drugging and molesting former Temple University employee Andrea Constand at his suburban Philadelphia mansion in 2004. Prosecutors said Constand was not only impaired, but unconscious after Cosby gave her three unidentified blue pills. Cosby said they engaged in consensual sexual activities, and that he was a friend and mentor to her.

Prosecutors reopened the criminal case last year after dozens of women raised similar claims, and Cosby's deposition in Constand's lawsuit surfaced.

Constand had gone to him for career advice. Cosby said he gave her the pills to address her stress.

He settled her lawsuit for an undisclosed sum in 2006, after giving four days of testimony about his extramarital affairs, his pursuit of quaaludes to seduce women and his efforts to hide payments to former lovers from his wife.

AP

In this Feb. 2, 2016 file photo, actor and comedian Bill Cosby arrives for a court appearance in Norristown, Pa.

Box Office Top 20: 'Angry Birds' slingshots past 'Civil War'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—In its first weekend in theaters, "The Angry Birds Movie" soared past "Captain America: Civil War," dethroning the superhero pic from its first place run with $38.2 million to "Captain America's" $32.9 million, according to studio actuals released Monday.

The final numbers for "The Angry Birds Movie" were slightly less than Sunday estimates but still bode well for the PG-rated animated movie, which has earned $150 million worldwide.

Newcomers "Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising" and "The Nice Guys," both R-rated comedies, fared less well. "Neighbors 2" earned less than half of the first film's opening weekend with $21.8 million, while "The Nice Guys" brought in only $11.2 million.

Disney's "The Jungle Book" rounded out the top five with $10.9 million, bringing its total to $327.4 million.

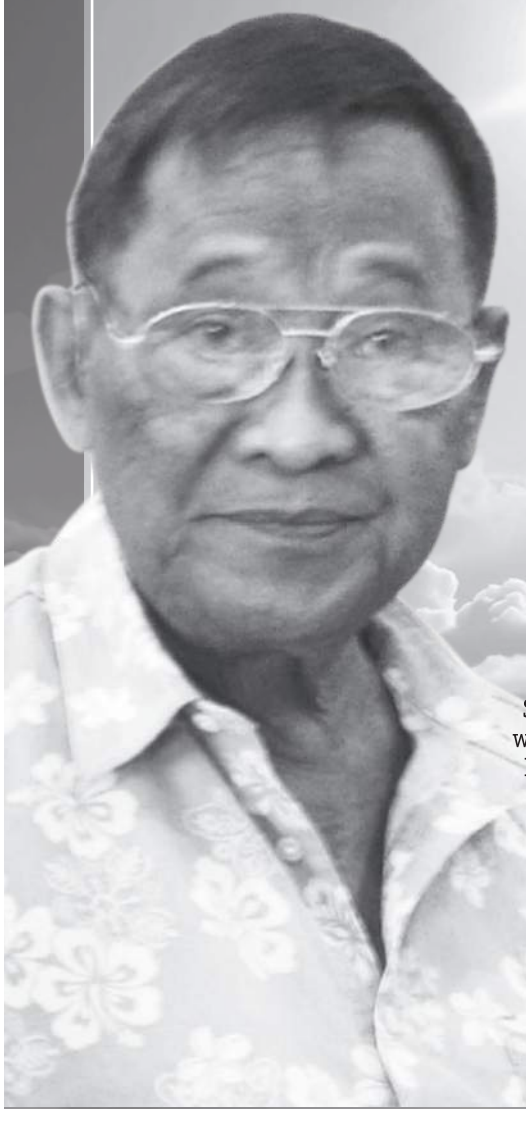
The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. "**The Angry Birds Movie**," Sony, $38,155,177, 3,932 locations, $9,704 average, $38,155,177, 1 week.
2. "**Captain America: Civil War**," Disney, $32,939,739, 4,226 locations, $7,795 average, $347,215,892, 3 weeks.
3. "**Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising**," Universal, $21,760,405, 3,384 locations, $6,430 average, $21,760,405, 1 week.
4. "**The Nice Guys**," Warner Bros., $11,203,270, 2,865 locations, $3,910 average, $11,203,270, 1 week.
5. "**The Jungle Book**," Disney, $10,944,350, 3,460 locations, $3,163 average, $327,424,915, 6 weeks.
6. "**Money Monster**," Sony, $7,016,884, 3,104 locations, $2,261 average, $27,040,531, 2 weeks.
7. "**The Darkness**," High Top Releasing, $2,272,618, 1,769 locations, $1,285 average, $8,370,100, 2 weeks.
8. "**Zootopia**," Disney, $1,683,982, 1,377 locations, $1,223 average, $334,384,510, 12 weeks.
9. "**The Huntsman: Winter's War**," Universal, $1,209,045, 1,246 locations, $970 average, $46,687,735, 5 weeks.
10. "**Mother's Day**," Open Road, $1,139,283, 1,719 locations, $663 average, $31,313,005, 4 weeks.
11. "**Barbershop: The Next Cut**," Warner Bros., $843,007, 744 locations, $1,133 average, $52,712,437, 6 weeks.
12. "**The Meddler**," Sony Pictures Classics, $782,883, 464 locations, $1,687 average, $2,048,804, 5 weeks.
13. "**The Boss**," Universal, $653,535, 672 locations, $973 average, $62,257,005, 7 weeks.
14. "**Love & Friendship**," Roadside Attractions, $559,821, 47 locations, $11,911 average, $758,154, 2 weeks.
15. "**Keanu**," Warner Bros., $522,305, 707 locations, $739 average, $20,005,655, 4 weeks.
16. "**The Man Who Knew Infinity**," IFC Films, $495,694, 270 locations, $1,836 average, $1,627,021, 4 weeks.
17. "**My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2**," Universal, $389,720, 365 locations, $1,068 average, $59,573,085, 9 weeks.
18. "**The Lobster**," A24, $389,083, 24 locations, $16,212 average, $1,040,077, 2 weeks.
19. "**Sing Street**," The Weinstein Company, $347,375, 520 locations, $668 average, $2,487,120, 6 weeks.
20. "**A Bigger Splash**," Fox Searchlight, $329,210, 128 locations, $2,572 average, $778,983, 3 weeks.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†ERMITO CANCESIO CAMU

November 28, 1936 - May 22, 2016



His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Margarita S. Camu

Children:
James & Candylen Camu
Cecile & Dan Jones
Marieta & Nato Quierez
Ermelita & Michael Militante
Ermito Jr. & Lyn Camu

Grand Children:
Margie Jane Camu
James Joshua Camu
Marjorie Camu
Cherrylyn Camu
Nicole Soriente

Great Grand Daughter:
Sofia Bella C. Hernandez

Brothers and Sister:
Antony Camu
Racy Ong
Mahim Camu

Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2016. His remains will lie in state at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Cabrera Center Complex beginning at 8:00 am. Prayer Service will take place at 10:00 am followed by his burial at Tanapag Cemetery.

PEACE.

Margarita Songao Camu and Family

Madonna responds to critics of her Prince tribute

Madonna is dismissing critics of her tribute to Prince at the Billboard Music Awards with style.

A day after her performance of "Nothing Compares 2 U" and duet with Stevie Wonder on "Purple Rain," the pop singer took to social media Monday and posted a picture of herself in a purple boa with a flower in her teeth.

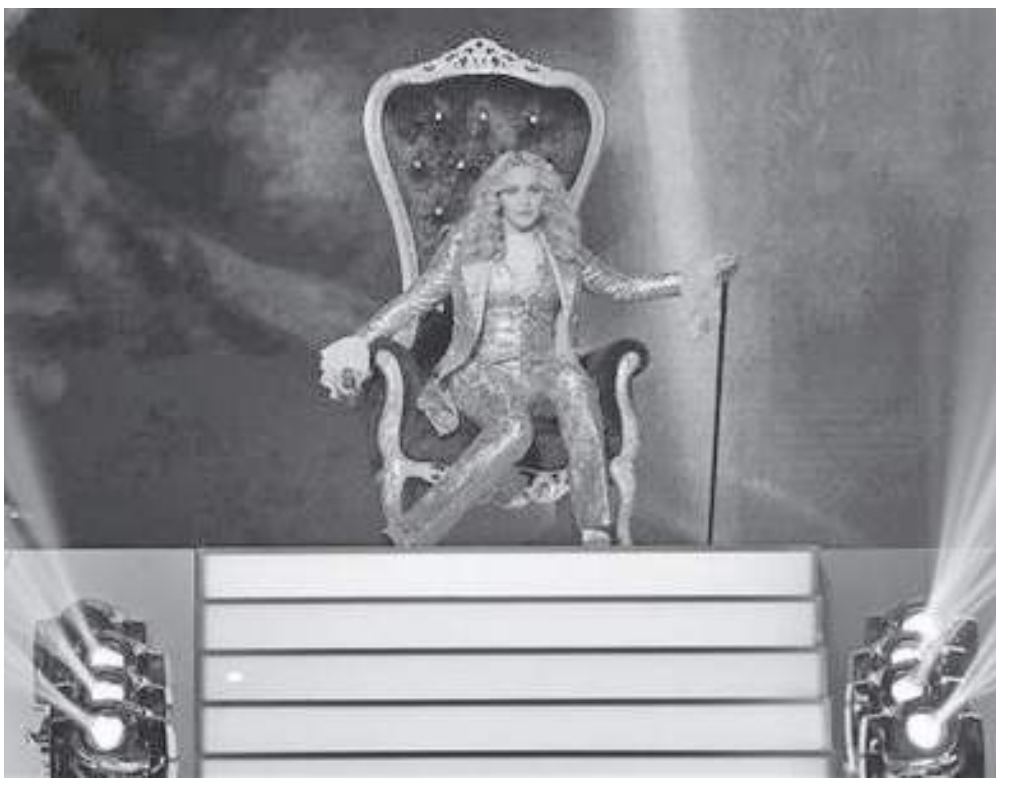
She wrote that anyone who wants to do a tribute to Prince is welcome to, "whatever your age gender or skin color. If you loved him and he inspired you then show it!!! I love Prince 4 ever." She later posed a video of her dancing with a caption that indicated the criticism didn't bother her.

The decision to have Madonna honor Prince sparked criticism online and sparked a Change.org petition in the days before the awards show, with some asking that other musicians more closely aligned to Prince be involved as well. Madonna and Prince collaborated on "Love Song" from Madonna's 1989 album, "Like a Prayer."

Madonna's performance on Sunday was met by a flurry of tweets complaining about her version of "Nothing Compares 2 U." Some were underwhelmed, others found it inappropriate.

BET responded to Madonna's performance on Twitter by advertising its upcoming Prince tribute during their awards show next month, adding the caption "Yeah, we saw that. Don't worry. We got you."

But Roots drummer Questlove, who introduced Madonna's performance, defended her on Twitter, pleading for fans to "not get ugly" wondering what Prince would approve of. ***(AP)***



AP

Madonna performs a tribute to Prince at the Billboard Music Awards at the T-Mobile Arena on Sunday, May 22, 2016, in Las Vegas.

Obama dines with CNN's Anthony Bourdain for series

NEW YORK (AP)—President Barack Obama dined in Hanoi, Vietnam, on Monday with CNN personality Anthony Bourdain, whose "Parts Unknown" food travelogue is one of the network's most popular nonfiction series.

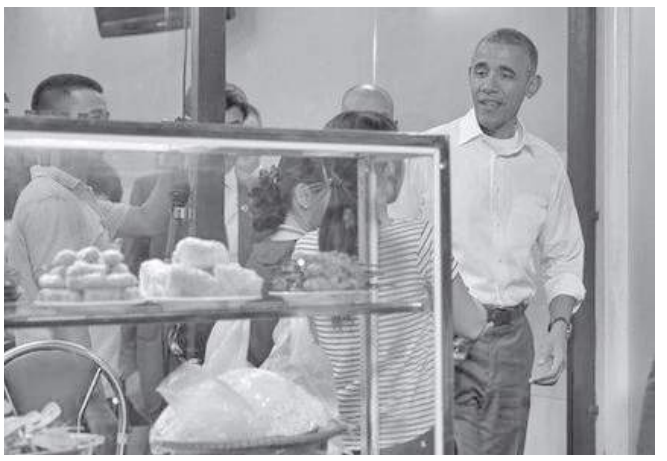
Bourdain met with Obama to discuss the purpose of Obama's trip to Asia and his interest in the people, food and culture of Vietnam, CNN said.

A huge crowd gathered outside the restaurant Bun cha Huong Lien, then let out a cheer when the president came out. Obama shook a lot of hands and waved repeatedly before vanishing into the motorcade.

Bourdain later tweeted that the meal cost $6, and he picked up the check.

Bourdain's show has been on CNN since 2013. For each episode the chef travels to a different part of the world to explore that area's culture, primarily by sharing in the area's distinct native cuisine.

The interview with Obama will be featured in the eighth season of "Parts Unknown,"



AP

President Barack Obama greets women at the door as he walks from the Bún ch? Huong Liên restaurant after having dinner with American Chef Anthony Bourdain, Monday, May 23, 2016, in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Nobel author Garcia Marquez's ashes returned to Colombia

CARTAGENA, Colombia (AP)—The ashes of Nobel Prize-winning novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez have been laid to rest in the historic Caribbean port city of Cartagena, Colombia, where he began his writing career.

On Sunday, members of Garcia Marquez's family were joined by friends and local dignitaries in dedicating a bronze bust of the author in a colonial-era cloister in the city.

The bust sits atop a commemorative stone holding part of Garcia Marquez's ashes. The rest of the ashes will remain in Mexico, where he lived for decades and died in 2014.

The walled city of Cartagena was the setting for one of his best-selling novels, "Love in the Time of Cholera." His family still maintains a seafront house there and a foundation established by the author to train Latin American journalists.

Murder trial for 'Shield' actor begins in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A murder trial began Monday for an actor who played a police officer on TV and is accused of shooting and killing his wife while their young children looked on two years ago in their Los Angeles home.

The trial of 53-year-old Michael Jace, who appeared on the FX series "The Shield," promises to explore unanswered questions about what led to the killing.

Few details about the slaying have been released, although a prosecutor has said the actor shot April Jace in the back and then again while their young children watched.

The actor then called a police dispatcher and said he had killed his wife, authorities say. A recording of the call has not been released.

Jace also phoned his father-in-law to pick up the children, according to another 911 call released by fire officials.

Jace has pleaded not guilty, and his attorneys have said his state of mind on the day of the killing will be a key element of his defense.

Jury selection began Monday, with a judge telling 70 prospective jurors about Jace's work as an actor and noting the case has received some publicity. Questioning of prospective jurors will resume Tuesday morning, with opening statements expected to begin later in the day.

April Jace, 40, was a financial aid counselor at Biola University and had two sons with the defendant. The boys were 8 and 5 when she was killed.

Her family called her death a senseless act of domestic violence.

Neighbors described the actor as a doting father and said they never saw or heard signs of trouble from the family home in the Hyde Park neighborhood. A prosecutor has said there was no evidence of previous domestic violence by Michael Jace.

Mom who wanders at night could be ill or just nosy

DEAR ABBY: My mom lives with me and my hubby. Recently I found out that she walks around at night because she hears noises or is restless—and puts her ear on our bedroom door, too!

I was shocked. I think this is a complete invasion of my privacy, and I was embarrassed to no end. I now avoid getting intimate with my hubby, and he has no idea why.

I have to be sensitive about what I say to Mom because she underwent surgery recently and she has lot of medical issues. How should I handle this?

NO NOISE FOR MS. NOSY

DEAR NO NOISE: The first thing you should do is tell your husband why you have been avoiding intimacy. If you don't, he may think it has something to do with him or the way you feel about him, and that's neither true nor fair.

Your mother's wandering around at night may be nosiness, or it could be insomnia or other medical issues. Her inability to sleep should be mentioned to her doctor so the cause can be determined. If you're correct that it's nosiness, then it should be handled firmly—by you and your husband—and some other living arrangement for her should be made.

DEAR ABBY: I have read your column since I was a little girl. Now, at 35, I need your advice.

For years, a friend of mine was in love with me. I didn't want to ruin the friendship by getting into a relationship, so I'd brush off his advances.

After six years, I realized he was a good man who would do anything for me, so I decided to go on a date. The date led to marriage, but now, five years later, we are divorced because I realized we were better off as friends rather than spouses.

He was OK with the divorce and moving out because he knew I would bhe happier, and he wanted me to be happy. Now that he's gone, I am sad that I have lost my friend. I miss the friendship we once had, and I'm heartbroken. It feels like I have suffered a death. Can you please help me? I'm not sure what to do.

LOST OUT WEST

DEAR LOST: In a sense, you HAVE suffered a death—the death of your marriage. Give yourself time to grieve.

If you thought that after divorcing your husband you could go back to being friends as though the marriage never happened, you were unrealistic. From his perspective, he has been rejected on a very basic level. In order to get past it, he may need time and distance from you. That's understandable.

In the meantime, stay busy with friends and projects because that will give you less time to brood. If you're not exercising, start now. Regular exercise can help to lessen depression. However, if your sadness persists, discuss it with a licensed psychotherapist so it doesn't become chronic.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

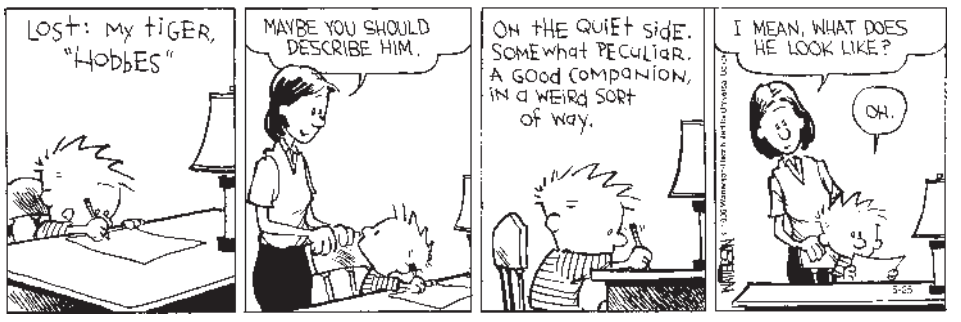
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

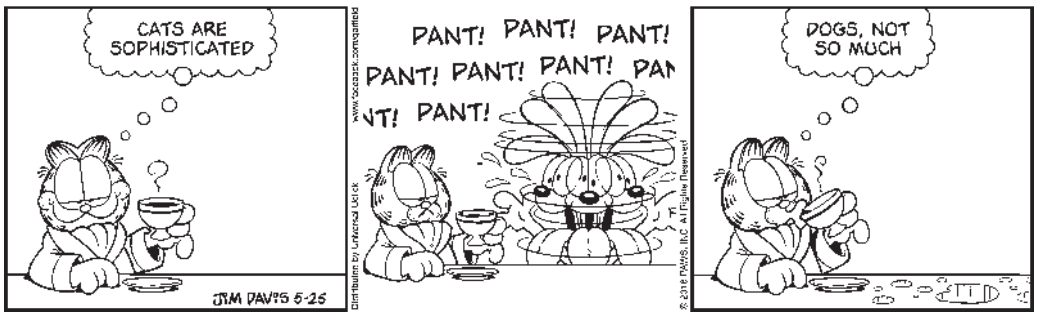
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


LOST: My tiGER, "HOBbES"
MAYBE YOU SHOULD DESCRIBE HIM.
ON THE QUIET SIDE. SOMEWHAT PECULIAR. A GOOD COMPANION, IN A WEIRD SORT OF WAY.
I MEAN, WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE?
OH.

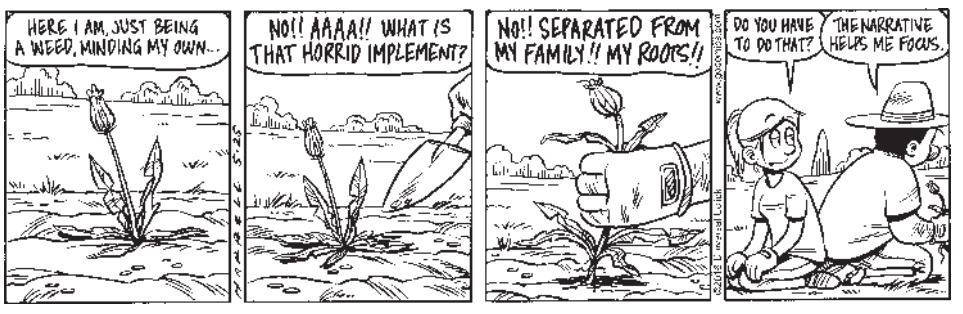
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


HERE I AM, JUST BEING A WEED, MINDING MY OWN...
NO!! AAAA!! WHAT IS THAT HORRID IMPLEMENT?
NO!! SEPARATED FROM MY FAMILY!! MY ROOTS!!
DO YOU HAVE TO DO THAT?
THE NARRATIVE HELPS ME FOCUS.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bro's kin
4 Garfield, for one
7 Essence
8 Shoe fasteners
10 Juliet's beau
11 Main dish
13 Immediately upon starting
16 Barbie's companion
17 Peeling utensil
18 "Yecch!"
19 Rage
20 High cards
21 Part of Hispaniola
23 Founded (on)
25 German city
26 Picnic spot
27 Connections
28 Upright
30 "Eureka!"
33 Take things in stride
36 Very popular
37 Expert
38 Prepared
39 "How sweet —!"
40 Literary collection
41 Capitol Hill VIP

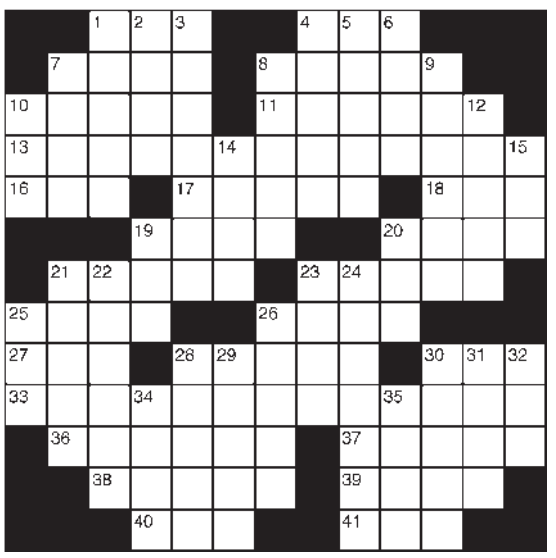
DOWN

1 "You're So Vain" singer
2 Detail
3 Decathlon event
4 "— talk?"
5 Thespian
6 Region (Abbr.)
7 Skin opening
8 Suspicious
9 Turn on the charm
10 D.C. stadium initials
12 Urged (on)
14 Mata —
15 Surprised cries
19 Shark feature
20 Request
21 Esteem
22 Retort
23 "Coffee Cantata" composer
24 Apollo's sister
25 Huge
26 Trivial
28 Allen or Frome
29 Valerie Harper sitcom
30 Cartoon chipmunk
31 Tackles weeds
32 Bristle
34 Notion
35 Kismet

Solution time: 24 mins.

P	H	E	W		B	I	G		M	A	S	H		
H	E	M	O		I	S	O		A	S	H	E		
I	N	I	T		R	E	D	O	N	I	C	K		
L	E	T	T	U	C	E		S	I	N	E	S		
			E	T	H		A	L	A					
P	A	N	U	A		A	V	O	C	A	D	O		
F	I	E			B	Y	E			P	R	O		
C	R	O	U	T	O	N		F	L	E	S	H		
			N	E	T		E	R	A					
A	D	O	R	F		S	N	O	W	P	F	A		
C	U	C	U	M	B	E	R		F	A	L	K		
C	A	H	_		A	M	O		U	G	L	I		
C	_	O	Y		Y	I	N		L	E	A	N		

Yesterday's answer 5-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Aly Raisman, 22; Demetri Martin, 43; Octavia Spencer, 46; Mike Myers, 53.

Happy Birthday: Look at what you have, decide what you need and make a concerted effort to get rid of items you no longer use. Getting the clutter out of your life will give you a sense of freedom that will allow you to leap into a new adventure. Invest in yourself and head in a direction that suits your current situation. Your numbers are 1, 9, 20, 29, 37, 42, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): An industrious effort backed by flawless execution will help you achieve the victory you deserve. There is money to be made and personal gain to celebrate. Don't lose your focus in spite of the distractions around you. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Listen, learn and use the information you gather to get where you want to go. Your ability to take control and persuade others to try things your way will be a sign that you can be the leader of the pack. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll have choices to make. Having a good time is fine, but not until you have taken care of your responsibilities. Make sure that you don't jeopardize your position or a friendship. Others' motives will be questionable. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Partnerships are featured. Discuss your plans with people you have worked with in the past. Your desire to help others will give you the chance to step into a leadership position. Host an event that allows you to share your concerns. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): A challenge will encourage you to put on an unforgettable display. Use your charm and stature to mesmerize onlookers. Someone from your past will be eager to take advantage of you. Refuse to let anyone take credit for your hard work. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't take on the responsibilities of others. Criticism and badgering will not help you resolve issues. Concentrate on your goals and refuse to be thrown off course by anyone else. Personal growth will be your best bet. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Stay focused on yourself. Getting involved in other people's problems will hold you back. Learn from past mistakes and strive to reach the goals that will enable you to grow intellectually. Be cautious while operating equipment. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A partnership will present an interesting opportunity. Consider the time it will take before you move forward with someone you know little about. It will be in your best interest to lay out solid plans and expectations to ensure your success. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Relationships will test you. Between misconceptions, false information and someone who is trying to take advantage of your generosity, it could be difficult to work alongside others. Take on a new challenge or begin making changes. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look for an interesting investment. Use emotional tactics to get others on board. A personal investment or home improvement project will pay off. Money will come to you unexpectedly. Don't disregard an unusual offer. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Spend time at home or taking care of personal business. A romantic relationship is best handled with caution. If you keep busy, it will make a positive difference to the way you are treated. Personal fitness is encouraged. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll be drawn to someone who comes from an unusual background. Don't feel pressured to give up your traditions or beliefs. If you cannot incorporate what you both bring to the relationship, it's best to take a pass. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are industrious, progressive and versatile. You are passionate and intense.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1			3			
5			3		8			9
	3		7	9	4		5	
		7			4			
3		9			5			7
	1	8			9	3		
		5			1			
	6		2	3	7		9	
	7						6	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 5/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	6	4	1	7	3	5	8	2
1	5	2	6	8	4	3	9	7
8	3	7	2	9	5	4	1	6
7	4	3	5	1	8	6	2	9
5	8	6	9	3	2	7	4	1
2	1	9	4	6	7	8	5	3
4	9	1	7	5	6	2	3	8
6	2	8	3	4	1	9	7	5
3	7	5	8	2	9	1	6	4

Difficulty Level ★★ 4/21

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SHAVERS AND TRIMMERS Solution: 4 letters

W	P	A	P	S	W	E	H	C	A	T	S	U	O	M
L	O	A	D	A	E	H	I	E	M	O	R	H	C	O
A	O	M	T	S	S	M	L	A	R	M	P	I	T	O
S	T	E	E	L	O	E	S	R	A	E	N	I	F	R
E	R	G	S	N	V	E	N	E	L	E	M	L	G	G
R	D	G	O	A	D	C	R	I	G	A	P	N	R	S
E	E	G	R	A	H	C	E	R	L	S	I	S	O	L
L	R	T	L	E	L	R	E	E	M	T	V	C	Z	I
E	R	B	S	E	U	L	C	R	A	U	O	U	A	O
S	O	T	A	B	L	I	A	L	N	B	T	L	R	F
W	T	N	B	A	M	R	L	Ⓕ	I	B	I	P	B	O
I	A	E	O	A	E	I	Ⓐ	U	K	L	N	T	M	A
T	R	P	R	D	C	Ⓒ	L	O	S	E	G	E	O	M
C	Y	E	N	S	Ⓔ	S	S	E	L	D	R	O	C	G
H	C	U	O	P	P	R	E	C	I	S	I	O	N	K

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 5/25

Armpit, Blade, Ceramic, Chest, Chrome, Clean, Close, Comb, Cordless, Cream, Ears, Edges, Ergonomic, Face, Facial, Fine, Foam, Foils, Groom, Head, Hypoallergenic, Laser, Legs, Lines, Male, Moustache, Neck, Oscillating, Pivoting, Pouch, Precision, Razor, Recharge, Rotary, Rubber, Sculpt, Skin, Soap, Spa, Steel, Stubble, Switch, Travel, Underarms, Water, Women

Yesterday's Answer: Short-legged

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: A cut above the rest

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

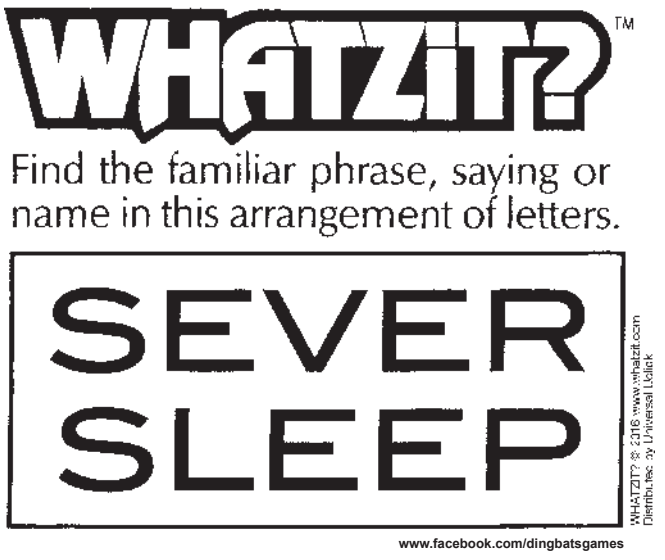
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.


WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
SEVER SLEEP
www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

1 Computer Programmer - Sal $6.55/Hr Min 5 Yrs Exp.
1 General Manager - Salary depends on Qualification & Exp.

Send Resume to: hongeei@pticom.com

JAE HOON CORPORATON D.B.A. PACIFIC GROCERS

has openings for:

One (1) General Manager
Minimum qualifications: Three years experience as a general manager for wholesale company with a minimum of 2,500 sales items and ability to read, write and speak Korean sufficiently to negotiate contracts and communicate with Korean speaking customers.
Duties: Manages and directs the company's overall wholesale food operations in Saipan as well as with Korean suppliers. Works in conjunction with company's corporate officers in planning, formulating, and establishing long-term and short-term objectives and goals as well as its marketing and operational policies and procedures. Manages and oversees the day-to-day sales, business, and administrative functions of the company. Manages and directs the company's marketing and sales activities, including implementation of the company's sales policies and marketing strategies; monitors overall sales activities and conformance with sales parameters; and oversees contractual arrangements and import/export financing requirements. Establishes and maintains customer relationships with existing clients and negotiates sales contracts with major customers. Directs and oversees expansion into new product lines and market areas. Exercises discretionary authority over the company's operations and personnel.

One (1) Operations Manager
Minimum qualifications: Three years experience as an operations for wholesale company with a minimum of 2,500 sales items.
Duties: Assists General Manager in managing and directing the company's operations in order to assure operational efficiency and identifies and resolves operational deficiencies. Manages the stock and inventory requirements based on sales orders, inventory, projected volume of sales, and current condition of economy. Supervises the purchase and procurement of merchandise, including import requirements with freight companies and government agencies. Manages assembly and storing of products by workers, filling of orders, and distribution to customers according to sales orders. Ensures compliance with established security, sales, and recordkeeping procedures and implements operational procedures of the company. Assumes the responsibilities of the General Manager in his absence.

One (1) Bookkeeper
Minimum qualifications: Three years experience as a bookkeeper or accountant for wholesale company with a minimum of 2,500 sales items and working knowledge of Quickbooks and SellWise software.
Duties: Records company's wholesale business transactions and retains all accounting records. Posts, verifies, and reconciles accounts payable, accounts receivable, expenses, payroll, and other ledger accounts. Prepares preliminary financial reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing account information. Prepares payroll and payroll taxes and distributions to government. Prepares gross receipts tax returns. Documents business transactions and verifies purchase orders and other financial transactions in order to substantiate the transactions prior to settlement. Prepares cash reconciliation, balances check books, and makes bank deposits.

One (1) Sales Representative
Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as a sales representative for wholesale company with a minimum of 2,500 sales items.
Duties: Sells company's products to retail stores. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders, and collect payment from customers.

One (1) Stocker
Minimum qualifications: One year experience as a stocker or warehouseman for wholesale company with a minimum of 2,500 sales items.
Duties: Receives merchandise and maintains stock records in warehouse. Unloads merchandise from containers and verifies that merchandise received is listed on requisitions and invoices. Stocks merchandise in warehouse, inventories merchandise, and maintains orderliness of merchandise on display and in warehouse. Assists in filling and loading orders for delivery of merchandise to customers.

If interested, send resume to Jae Hoon Corporation d.b.a Pacific Grocers by email to jychris@pacificgrocers.com or by fax at 670-288-1239. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

Warehouse for RENT

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
WINCHELL'S DONUTS

1 vacancy for **Operations Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level with at least 5 years of continued experience in managing a bakery or similar operations; must be capable of managing 15 or more people and more than one store; must be computer literate and possesses knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must have an experience in handling the administrative and financial aspect of a business. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level and has at least 2 years of continued experience in managing bakery operations; must have knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must be customer-service oriented, computer literate and confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

4 vacancies for **Donut Makers/Bakers**. Wage ranges from $6.05/hr to $6.50/hr. Must be a high school graduate with a few months to 1 year experience in baking; must be able to read, write and speak basic English; must be capable of lifting at least 50lbs and has basic mathematical skills and knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese and other foreign languages is highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health with good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards; provide current police/court clearance and health certificate. Must have reliable transportation and willing to undergo drug test.

Please email your resume to jobapplicant2014@gmail.com or drop them to Winchell's Garapan

EMPLOYMENT

1 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER $6.05/Hr 4yrs exp. JJ BROTHER CORP jikangahn@gmail.com.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 Baker • 1 Accounting Associates
1 Purchaser • 2 Cook • 1 Server
with 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to JNJ CORPORATION
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 Mechanic
with 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
AQUATIC MARINE CO. INC.
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

Liang's Limited Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement
2 - Cook. Must be familiar with Chinese cuisine. Able to speak Chinese language preferred. 3 years experience required.
Interested applicants please send resume to liansmile@yahoo.com or call 670-989-4676

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
1 Accountant
2 Mechanic
with 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
THE ROSE EMPIRE CORPORATION
PMB 2153 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

SINCE 1914
Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
(An Inchcape Company)

Assistant Aftersales Manager

Opening: **May 25, 2016** Closing: **June 8, 2016**

Atkins Kroll Inc. is looking for a professional who will be responsible to assist and manage the Aftersales (Parts & Service) team operations. He or she must be able to run an efficient and profitable department through productive staffing, customer retention, cost controls, and achievement of objectives. The Assistant Aftersales Manager will also be responsible to ensures that the daily inventory of technician's time is consistently sold to service customers; monitor part procedures, inventory control, while contributing to an amazing customer experience.

Qualifications:
- Minimum 3 years Parts & Service Management experience.
- Degree in Automotive Technology, or equivalent experience
- Extremely organized and can multitask.
- Maintain focus and work in a high pressure environment.
- Excellent communications skills-both written and verbal.
- Excellent computer skills, including Microsoft Office, Excel, Power Point, Word,

COMPETITIVE WAGES & EXCELLENT BENEFITS
Benefits: Medical and Dental Insurance Plan, 401k Retirement Savings Plan, Long Term Disability Insurance, Life Insurance, Paid Holidays, Vacation, and Sick Leave.

If you meet these qualifications submit your resume to hr@akguam.net or apply in person at Atkins Kroll Saipan, Inc. Finance & Admin. Office
No phone calls please!

AK IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
www.aksaipan.com

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!
For opportunities contact us at
235-6397

SUNLEADER CO. LTD.
PMB 85, BOX 10003, SAIPAN, MP 96950
TEL. 233-3222/FAX: 233-3221

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 FOOD PACKAGER – Must be neat and clean. Responsible in preparing food items for selling. At least 3 years experience. Have knowledge in Chinese language.

1 BOOKKEEPER – Must be responsible, honest and trustworthy. Must be Peachtree literate. At least 3 years experience.

1 MANAGER – Must be responsible enough to manage the business. Must be computer literate and hardworking. Must be Chinese literate.

For interested applicants please email your resume to: sunleadersaipan@gmail.com

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MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-16-2341: ACQUISITION OF TWO PICK-UP TRUCKS
MVA-RFP-16-2342: ACQUISITION OF PASSENGER VAN
MVA-RFP-16-2343: ACQUISITION OF SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE

Closing Date: **June 30, 2016** Time: **3:00 p.m.**

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the **MVA** website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
MVA Chair, Board of Directors

/s/ MARTIN F. DUENAS
Acting Managing Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Must be college graduate with at least 4 years experience in communication business. Proficient in verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate and expertise in Microsoft office applications

ACCOUNTANT
Must be college graduate with degree in Accounting or Business Administration and has minimum of 5 to 7 years experience in communication business. Computer literate, expertise in Microsoft office applications and accounting softwares. Knowledge in preparation of financial reports, tax, budget, forecast, billings. Proficient in verbal and written communication.

SALES MANAGER
Must be college graduate has minimum of 5 years experience in communication business. Must have the knowledge in managing daily business operation, handling the administrative, sales and treasury. Proficient in verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate and expertise in Microsoft office applications

(4) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN
Must have at least 5 years work experience in communication business. Knowledge and expertise in programming and repair of iDen communication handsets. Must have experience in working on telecommunications field equipment and structures. Computer literate and must have good communication skills.

Interested applicants can send resume to Choice Radio, Inc. P.O. Box 501750 Saipan, MP 96950.

Century Tours, Inc.
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(19) Tour Guide
High school diploma, GED or equivalent. A minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in travel or tour operation, sales or service related field. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages.

(3) Customer Service Specialist
High school diploma or GED or equivalent. Two (2) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Fluent in both written and oral communication in the English and Chinese languages. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications to ceti_recruitment@tanholdings.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 1, 2016. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the Century Tours Office, Kanoa Resort, Beach Road, Susupe Village. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Tours is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY
has openings for:

One (1) Sales Manager
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Two (2) Sales and Marketing Representative
Minimum qualifications: Associate's degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent) and two years experience in job offered, as a sales representative or marketing representative.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective customers to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customers' needs. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders, and collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers. Assists Sales Manager in identifying prospective customers, monitoring market conditions and monitoring competitors' products and prices.

One (1) Sales Representative
Minimum qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).
Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

One (1) Computer Technician
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree in computer technology, science or programming or two-year course in computer technology, science or programming (may be foreign equivalent) and two years experience as computer technician or computer programmer.
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One (1) Graphic Artist
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Duties: Designs and creates visual products to meet company's promotional needs, including designing and creating promotional displays and marketing brochures, signs and signage systems, packaging, menus, and other visual products. Formulates visual marketing campaign and overall design concepts for company to reach target markets. Applies critical thinking and problem solving analysis to various design concepts and approaches that can be utilized to attain the desired effect on the target market. Creates innovative design solutions utilizing knowledge of graphic design theory and methodologies in conjunction with current cultural trends, market demographics, cultural preferences, and seasonal shifts to achieve optimum market response. Produces and coordinates the execution of mock-up and final graphic design and artwork for the visual products.

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Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as building maintenance repairer.
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Raptors even up series vs Cavs with Game 4 win

TORONTO (AP)—A series that once looked lopsided is now even.

Kyle Lowry scored 35 points, including a driving layup in the final minute, and DeMar DeRozan had 32 as the Toronto Raptors evened the Eastern Conference Finals by beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 105-99 in Game 4 on Monday night.

DeMarre Carroll scored 11 points and Bismack Biyombo had 14 rebounds as Toronto improved to 8-2 at home this postseason and got back on level terms after big losses in Games 1 and 2.

"We've been counted out, and we like that challenge," DeRozan said.

The next challenge for Toronto? Game 5 on Wednesday night in Cleveland, where the Raptors are 0-3 this season, losing by a combined 72 points.

"We have to continue to make sure that when they punch, we punch back," Lowry said. "And if they punch three times, we punch four times."

The Raptors are 2-6 on the road in the playoffs.

After a 10-0 start to these playoffs, the Cavaliers are counting on home court advantage to help them reach their second straight Finals.

"Going back home we have to play a lot better and I think we will," LeBron James said.

Cleveland lost consecutive playoff games to an Eastern Conference opponent for the first time since dropping the final three games of the conference semifinals to Boston in 2010.

"We had a few defensive breakdowns that you can't have down the stretch of a game, especially in the playoffs," Cavs coach Tyronn Lue said. "They executed every time we made a mistake."

James scored 29 points and Kyrie Irving had 26 for the Cavaliers, who trailed by as many as 18 points. Channing Frye scored nine of his 12 points in the fourth quarter.

Lowry scored nine in the fourth and DeRozan had 12, connecting on five of six shots.

"It's a cakewalk for me when (Lowry) gets going," DeRozan said. "It opens up everything."

The Raptors led 78-69 to begin the fourth but Frye made consecutive 3-pointers as Cleveland opened the final quarter with an 8-0 run, cutting it to 78-77. The Cavaliers made their first 11 shots of the fourth quarter.

"It wasn't enough because we got off to a horrible first half once again in this building and you're playing catch up the whole game," James said.

Frye's errant 3-point attempt at 4:12 was Cleveland's first miss of the fourth. DeRozan made two free throws at the other end and, after another miss by Frye, Carroll made one of two to put Toronto up 99-96 with 3:23 to go.

A long 3 by Irving made it 101-99 with 2:00 left, but DeRozan answered with a driving bank shot at 1:33. Toronto got the ball back after Biyombo blocked J.R. Smith's 3, and Biyombo kept the offensive possession alive by rebounding Lowry's missed shot. After a timeout, Lowry let the shot clock wind down before driving for the decisive layup, making it 105-99 with 22 seconds to go.

Toronto jumped out to a 13-5 lead as Cleveland missed eight of its first 10 shots. Following a timeout, the Cavs made five of their next six to cut the deficit but the Raptors led 27-24 after one quarter.

Lowry scored 15 points in the second, making three of Toronto's four 3-pointers, as the Raptors opened a 57-41 halftime lead despite not shooting a single free throw in the first two quarters. It marked the first time a team led by 15 or more at halftime in a conference finals game without shooting a free throw since Game 2 of the 2001 East Finals between Milwaukee and Philadelphia. The Bucks made two of six from the line, the fewest ever made in an NBA playoff game at the time.

Toronto Raptors forward James Johnson (3) battles for the ball against Cleveland Cavaliers guard Matthew Dellavedova (8) during the first half Eastern Conference final playoff basketball action in Toronto on Monday, May 23, 2016.

DeRozan shot Toronto's first free throws at 6:13 of the third after being tackled by Smith on a drive. The foul drought came after Raptors coach Dwane Casey was fined $25,000 for criticizing the officials following Toronto's Game 3 win.

Fans cheered derisively when Matthew Dellavedova was called for Cleveland's first foul of the game at 8:56 of the second.

After shooting 3 for 19 in Game 3, Kevin Love shot 4 for 14 in Game 4. He finished with 10 points. Love did not play in the fourth after appearing to injure his left ankle when he stepped on referee David Guthrie late in the third. "It didn't feel too great," Love said. Lue said Love's health was "no concern."

Cleveland didn't shoot any free throws in the third quarter and had just two in the fourth. Twelve of Toronto's 19 free throws came in the fourth.

Draymond fined, swaps barbs with Westbrook over fouls, kicks

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Draymond Green knows who is responsible for his kick to the groin of Thunder center Steven Adams: Russell Westbrook and the rest of the NBA stars who get to the foul line with a whole lot of salesmanship.

Green's kick felled the 7-foot, 255-pound Adams during the second quarter of Golden State's Game 3 loss to Oklahoma City in the Western Conference finals on Sunday night. He was fined $25,000 but not suspended by the NBA on Monday.

Westbrook later said Green kicked Adams intentionally—and that didn't go over well with the Warriors' standout.

"There are multiple plays where I did it later in the game when I got fouled and my right leg went up," Green said Monday. "I always do it. Russell said I did it on purpose, but he's part of the superstar group that started all this acting in the NBA."

Green even pointed to a play at the end of the second quarter, when Green fouled Westbrook on a long 3-pointer.

"Russell Westbrook kicked me at the end of the half," Green said. "He just didn't happen to catch me where I caught Steven Adams."

Westbrook wasn't thrilled with Green's comments, calling Green's foul on the 3-pointer a "dumb play on his part."

"I've never been fined for one flop since I've been playing in the NBA," Westbrook said. "I don't know about no flopping or nothing. I don't know how to flop. But it seems like he was the one that was flailing, kicking his legs out and stuff yesterday. It wasn't me."

Green was called for a flagrant 1 foul and Adams later noted that Green had kneed him in the same spot during Game 2. Green was fined $25,000 by the NBA on Monday and the foul was upgraded to a flagrant 2, but he was not suspended and will be in uniform when the defending champion Warriors try to even the series at 2-2.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr said he needs Green at his best.

"He needs to refocus a little bit," Kerr said. "He'll admit it. It was not one of his best games - in fact, it was one of his worst. The great thing with Draymond is he always turns it around. He's one of the great competitors that we have in the league, that we have on our team. When things aren't looking great, he usually plays his best."

Kerr knows Green might have made himself a target for the officials.

"Does he have to be careful? I guess," Kerr said. "Now, people are watching for him or whatever. He's just going to play, he's going to be himself, and we'll see what happens."

Green insists the hit that sent Adams to the floor wasn't that big a deal.

"I can see how somebody can think it was intentional, but yet nobody can go in my head and say, 'Draymond was thinking about kicking him and he kicked him,'" Green said. "If you watch my reaction, I walk back to the three-point line, clap everybody's hands, turn around and look like, 'What's the dude on the floor for?'"

Green scored six points, made 1 of 9 shots and committed four turnovers in a game to forget. Normally one of the league's best defenders, he was beaten numerous times individually by the Thunder, and the Warriors were outscored by 43 points with him on the floor.

With the crowd booing loudly every time Green touched the ball, he couldn't make plays to shut Thunder fans up.

"That's what was frustrating to me," he said. "I was just bad. I missed a couple easy ones and it just kind of killed my whole game. That was pretty frustrating, especially with all the boos, because I love boos and it usually helps me play well. It was frustrating that I couldn't get it going."

Green has been below his standard throughout the series. He's averaging 13 points on 37 percent shooting in the series, and just 5.3 rebounds and 4.7 assists. In the regular season, Green averaged 14 points on 49 percent shooting, 9.5 rebounds and 7.4 assists.

Warriors guard Stephen Curry expects Green to improve. Green bounced back after a poor Game 3 in a first-round loss to Houston to post 18 points, eight rebounds and six assists in a 121-94 victory in Game 4.

"He's mentally strong, so nothing that happened last night is going to affect Game 4 except light a fire probably," Curry said. "You can look at trends and all that. In the Houston series, he was able to understand what he needed to do differently. He's a very smart guy. He has a great eye for the game. I think it matters to him a lot to have an impact on the game. He'll find a way."

Murray struggles in soaked French Open

PARIS (AP)—Dusk has put an end to play at the French Open, with the umpire pulling Andy Murray off the Court Philippe Chatrier after the Briton clawed back from losing the first two sets. He won the third set against Radek Stepanek and led 4-2 in the fourth set.

''It is getting dark,'' the second-seeded Murray conceded just before what turned out to be his last game of the day.

Murray was furious with himself after losing the first two sets 6-3, 6-3 against the tournament's oldest player. With cries of ''Let's go!'' he reversed the momentum by taking the third set 6-0, losing only two points on serve.

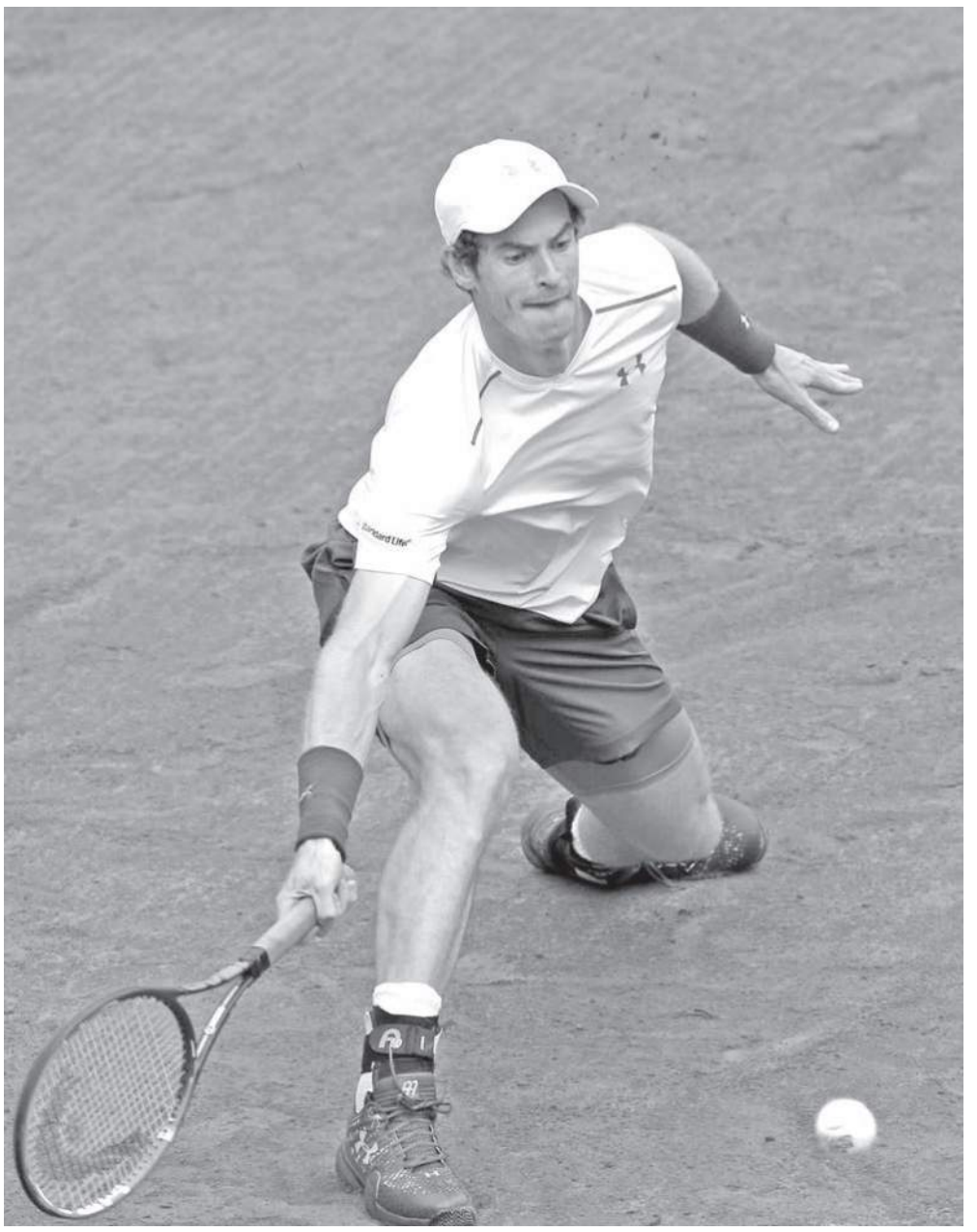
With the first-round match starting to go back his way, Murray wanted to play as long as possible. He was unhappy with what he considered to be time-wasting tactics by his 37-year-old opponent.

''How many things can he do to slow the play down?'' Murray asked the umpire as Stepanek took a bathroom break after losing the third set.

Murray has been muttering angrily himself and is clearly not happy in the cool evening conditions. Stepanek, on the other hand, is rolling back the years in what would go down as a vintage performance for the player from the Czech Republic if he wins.

Meanwhile, thanks to rain, Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams must wait an extra day to start their bids for history at the French Open.

The two No. 1-seeded players originally were slated to play first-round matches on Monday, the second day of the clay-court Grand Slam tournament.



AP
Britain's Andy Murray returns the ball to Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic during their first round match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Monday, May 23, 2016, in Paris.

But the schedule already is being shuffled because of showers that created a delay of more than 2½ hours in the afternoon and returned to halt all play in the early evening, allowing a total of only 10 out of 32 matches to be completed.

So the soonest Djokovic—who is trying to complete a career Grand Slam and become the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to win four consecutive major titles —and Williams— hoping to equal Steffi Graf's Open-era record of 22 major championships—will get started is Tuesday, which is Day 3 at Roland Garros.

Instead, some of the players considered possible challengers will be in action on Monday. If the weather holds up, that is, because there is more rain in the forecast for Day 2.

Among those scheduled to play Monday: No. 3 Stan Wawrinka, the defending champion, who beat Djokovic in the 2015 French Open final.

"Novak is the favorite, for sure," Wawrinka said. "But I think it's going to be interesting to see what's going to happen with the other players."

Wawrinka is coming off a confidence-boosting title last week on red clay in Geneva, where he defeated his first opponent in Paris, Lukas Rosol, in the semifinals.

That victory made Wawrinka 4-0 against Rosol, a player best known for stunning Rafael Nadal in the second round of Wimbledon in 2012.

In other related news, Nick Kyrgios insisted it was an innocuous, if admittedly loud, directive to a ball kid to retrieve a towel between points—shouted above the din of spectators at the French Open's cozy Court 1.

Chair umpire Carlos Ramos considered Kyrgios' bark during a first-set tiebreaker Sunday too forceful and assessed a code violation warning for unsportsmanlike conduct. That led to a long-running, and occasionally curse-filled, argument from the 21-year-old Australian, who at one point said the official was ''unbelievably biased.''

Much as the 17th-seeded Kyrgios made of the disagreement at the time - he could have been docked a point for his colorful language - he managed to set it aside eventually and worked his way through a 7-6 (6), 7-6 (6), 6-4 victory over 124th-ranked Marco Cecchinato of Italy with the help of 16 aces, providing a bit of a spark on an otherwise dreary, drenched Day 1 at Roland Garros.

''It didn't put me off too much,'' Kyrgios said of his flap with Ramos. ''With someone like me that's pretty emotional, it can frustrate me a little bit, but I felt like I dealt with it pretty well.''

Of the 32 matches on Sunday's schedule, his was one of only nine completed before showers created a rain delay of more than 2 1/2 hours in the afternoon, interrupting matches involving No. 5 Kei Nishikori, No. 23 Jack Sock and others.

Winners included two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova, who acknowledged feeling ''kind of down mentally'' and was one game from bowing out against 59th-ranked Danka Kovinic of Montenegro before taking the final three for a 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 escape. Also advancing was No. 19 Benoit Paire of France, who needed five sets to get past 137th-ranked qualifier Radu Albot of Moldova.

Kershaw tosses 2-hitter in Dodgers win over Reds

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Clayton Kershaw tossed a two-hitter for his third shutout of the season, pitching the Los Angeles Dodgers past Cincinnati 1-0 Monday night for their eighth straight win over the Reds.

Kershaw (7-1) struck out seven, ending his franchise-record streak of six starts in a row with at least 10 strikeouts. He gave the bullpen some much-needed rest after the Dodgers used a combined 13 relievers in consecutive extra-inning games at San Diego last weekend.

The left-hander retired his final 17 batters after issuing just his fifth walk of the season to Joey Votto leading off the fourth. Kershaw threw 102 pitches.

The Dodgers won back-to-back games for the first time since taking three in a row May 12-14. They needed just 2 hours, 11 minutes, to beat the Reds after outlasting San Diego in 5:47 on Sunday.

Brandon Finnegan (1-3) allowed five hits in his first career complete game for Cincinnati. The left-hander, who struck out two and walked four, hasn't won since April 16.

Giants 1, Padres 0

In San Francisco, Brandon Belt scored from first base when pinch-hitter Hunter Pence's bloop double to short right field fell between two San Diego players with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning to give San Francisco the win.

Johnny Cueto (7-1) allowed two hits in his third complete-game win over the Padres this season.

Mets 7, Nationals 1

In Washington, David Wright, Yoenis Cespedes and Neil Walker homered on the day Mets slugger Lucas Duda went on the disabled list, leading New York past Washington.

Pitching on the eve of his 43rd birthday, Bartolo Colon (4-3) allowed one run and five hits in seven efficient innings. Baseball's oldest player struck out two and walked two.

Marlins 7, Rays 6

In Miami, Ichiro Suzuki had four hits, including a single in Miami's two-run eighth inning, and the Marlins rallied past Tampa Bay.

The 42-year-old Suzuki has 10 hits in the past three games to raise his average to .417 and increase his career hit total to 2,960.

Cardinals 4, Cubs 3

In St. Louis, Randal Grichuck hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the ninth to lift St. Louis past Chicago.

Matt Adams tied the score with a two-run homer off in the seventh for St. Louis' major league-leading ninth pinch-hit homer of the season. It also ended a streak of 13 innings of one-run pitching by Chicago starter John Lackey against his former team.

Angels 2, Ranger 0

In Arlington, Albert Pujols hit a two-run home run, the 569th of his career, and Nick Tropeano threw 6 2/3 strong innings to help Los Angeles beat Texas.

The Angels have won eight of their last 11 games.

Pujols' homer in the third inning tied him for 12th in career homers with Rafael Palmeiro.

Tigers 5, Phillies 4

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit two of Detroit's four solo homers, then scored the tiebreaking run on Victor Martinez's seventh-inning single to lift the Detroit past Philadelphia.

J.D. Martinez and Nick Castellanos also homered for Detroit, which has won seven of eight.

White Sox 7, Indians 6
Indians 5, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Rajai Davis' two-run homer in the fifth inning of the second game put Cleveland ahead to stay, Jose Ramirez hit his second long ball of the day and Juan Uribe also went deep and the Indians earned a split of their doubleheader with the Chicago White Sox.

In the opener, Brett Lawrie broke a fifth-inning tie with a three-run homer, Todd Frazier hit his 14th of the season and the White Sox held on for a 7-6 victory.

Pirates 6, Rockies 3

In Pittsburgh, Pirates starter Ryan Vogelsong was carted off the field after getting struck in the head by a pitch in the second inning of Pittsburgh's win over Colorado.

With the bases loaded and Pittsburgh leading 1-0, Rockies starter Jordan Lyles (1-2) hit Vogelsong in the left cheek with a 92 mph fastball. Vogelson was making his second start of the season, filling in because of a rainout Sunday.

Royals 10, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Salvador Perez had a career-high five hits, including a double, a triple and an RBI, to lead Kansas City past Minnesota.

Paulo Orlando added three hits and two RBI in the rain-delayed game for the Royals, who put All-Star outfielder Alex Gordon on the disabled list earlier in the day with a fractured right wrist.

Athletics 5, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Rich Hill pitched eight innings to win his fourth straight start, Stephen Vogt hit a leadoff homer in the seventh inning to snap a scoreless tie and Oakland ended a four-game skid.

Taijuan Walker (2-4) held the A's to two hits through six innings, but then Vogt opened the seventh by driving a 3-1 pitch deep over the right field wall for his fourth homer.

Man United fires Van Gaal, expected to appoint Mourinho soon

MANCHESTER, England (AP)—Replacing Alex Ferguson is proving harder than Manchester United could ever have imagined.

United is looking for its third manager since Ferguson's trophy-laden 26-year dynasty ended in 2013 after firing Louis van Gaal on Monday following months of uncertainty around his position.

Jose Mourinho is set to take over at Old Trafford as the latest coach attempting to revive the fortunes of England's biggest club.

It was beyond David Moyes, who lasted 10 months as Ferguson's hand-picked successor, and now Van Gaal has departed after two underwhelming years when he oversaw more than $350 million of spending on new players.

"I am very disappointed to be unable to complete our intended three-year plan," Van Gaal said. "I believe that the foundations are firmly in place to enable the club to move forward and achieve even greater success."

AP
Manchester United's manager Louis van Gaal, right, talks to his player Wayne Rooney ahead of the English FA Cup final soccer match between Manchester United and Crystal Palace at Wembley Stadium, London on Saturday May 21, 2016.

United, the record 20-time English champion, said its "decision on a successor as manager will be announced soon" while giving no names.

Delivering United's first trophy —an FA Cup on Saturday—since Ferguson's retirement was not enough to save Van Gaal. He paid the price for failing to qualify United for next season's Champions League, with the team finishing fifth in the Premier League.

"I hope that winning the FA Cup will give the club a platform to build upon next season to restore the success that this passionate set of fans desire," Van Gaal said.

The 64-year-old Van Gaal could now be heading into retirement. He has also coached Ajax, Barcelona, Bayern Munich and the Netherlands in a stellar coaching career.

"Having managed in Holland, Spain and Germany, I had always hoped for the opportunity to manage in English football and be part of English culture," Van Gaal said. "Both of these experiences have lived up to expectations and been fantastic."

United executive vice chairman Ed Woodward praised Van Gaal for behaving with "great professionalism and dignity" in the two years since he replaced Moyes.

"(Van Gaal) leaves us with a legacy of having given several young players the confidence to show their ability on the highest stage," Woodward said.

Indeed, the redeeming feature of Van Gaal's reign was his continuation of the club's long-held policy of giving youngsters a chance, including Jesse Lingard -- the scorer of the winning goal in the FA Cup final against Crystal Palace. But Van Gaal's turbulent tenure has been marred by accusations from critics that he betrayed United's heritage by playing a defensive, risk-averse style.

Mourinho has been heavily linked with the United job for months and told The Associated Press last week that he would sign a contract with a new team by the end of next month. The Portuguese coach is a serial winner, guiding Chelsea to three Premier League titles in his two spells, but his footballing philosophy and confrontational style has long been regarded as at odds with United traditions.

United has often dominated the league and been European champion three times, but the club has lost its way since Ferguson retired.

Still plenty of air in 'Deflategate' court case

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Brady's lawyers asked a federal appeals court for a new hearing before an expanded panel of judges, telling them on Monday that it is not just a silly dispute over underinflated footballs—it's the basic right to a fair process that is shared by all union workers.

Setting the stage for the "Deflategate" scandal to stretch into its third season, and putting Brady's four-game suspension back in the hands of the courts, the players' union asked all 13 judges of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to hear the case that a three-judge panel decided in the league's favor.

In the appeal filed on Monday, Brady's lawyers said that Commissioner Roger Goodell's "biased, agenda-driven, and self-approving `appeal' ruling must be vacated."

The 2-1 decision by the panel, they wrote, "will fuel unpredictability in labor arbitrations everywhere and make labor arbitration increasingly capricious and undesirable for employers and employees alike."

The NFL had no comment.

Brady was initially suspended four games for what Goodell said was an illegal scheme to use improperly inflated footballs in the 2015 AFC championship game. The suspension was overturned by a federal judge on the eve of last season, but a circuit court panel ruled 2-1 last month that Goodell was within the rights granted to him by the collective bargaining agreement.

An appeal to the full 2nd Circuit—called "en banc"—is Brady's next step in his attempt to avoid the suspension. En banc appeals are rarely granted.

If this request is rejected, the New England Patriots quarterback could then appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the odds of obtaining a hearing are even slimmer.

"That's always an option to litigants," said Ted Olson, the former U.S. Solicitor General who has joined Brady's legal team. "It is not something we have resolved ourselves to doing."

Still, pushing forward could pressure Goodell into a settlement so another NFL season is not dominated by talk of deflated footballs.

Olson, who was involved in the Bush v. Gore lawsuit that settled the 2000 presidential election and also the case that overturned California's ban on same-sex marriages, said he does not expect a lengthy appeals process before the 2nd Circuit.

"We don't know the timetable. They could call for additional briefings or just send out a notice that the petition has been accepted or denied," he said. "They have the right to drag it out, but that would be very atypical."

A four-time Super Bowl champion and two-time league MVP, Brady was suspended four games. The Patriots were docked $1 million and two draft picks after an NFL investigation found the team guilty of intentionally underinflating footballs used in the 45-7 victory over the Indianapolis Colts on Jan 18, 2015. Brady was found to be "at least generally aware" of the scheme.

MT. CARMEL

From Page 28

and Toves and Deleon Guerrero adding 11 and 10, respectively.

The three key players made 4 points apiece in the first quarter, which saw the Knights building a promising 12-1 lead to set the tone in the finale en route to the easy win.

The rest of the team stepped up in the remaining three quarters, as coach Francis San Nicolas started fielding his second and third stringers in the fourth frame with the Knights having the game in the bag after the third canto, leading by 41, 60-19.

Mt. Carmel managed to rout MBA in the finale and foiled the Tigers' title bid after a two-year absence in the league despite the latter's height and heft advantage.

"We knew MBA has the edge in ceiling because they have bigger players, so our focus is to defend the paint well and box them out. If we keep them out of the rebound play, we will take away a lot of second chance points and in return we can work on our own offense, using our speed advantage," San Nicolas said.

The MCS coach also reminded his players not to be overconfident coming into the finals despite going undefeated in the elimination.

"They should be confident, but not too much. We have to keep playing our best all throughout the game," the Knights coach added, saying he did not want to celebrate early despite their good start.

"I only began loosening up in the fourth quarter when we had the big lead, but still I cautioned our players that MBA will try to comeback so they still have to keep their guards up," San Nicolas said.

With San Nicolas steering his Knights to back-to-back championships in the COPSSA league, he said they are hoping to bring their winning ways in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization.

"Hopefully, there will be a MISO league next school year and we really want to win that because it's been awhile since Mt. Carmel won in MISO," San Nicolas said.

The last time the Knights earned the boys high school crown in MISO was in 2005 when the league was still under MISA, with the team bannered by Dan Barcinas beating Rowell Aranda-led Saipan Southern High School, 115-110. In COPSSA, Mt. Carmel also had a title drought, beginning in the 2009 before it ended last year when the Knights dethroned Eucon.

MCS 70 — Ellama 20, Toves 11, Deleon Guerrero 10, Gamab 8, Muna 7, Lee 7, Yun 4, Tenorio 3.

MBA 35 — Song 8, Park 8, Chung 7, Lee 6, Kim 2, Hofschneider 2, Baek 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-5, 39-11, 60-19, 70-35.

YANKEES

From Page 28

The third inning was the closest that the Braves could get home, as in the last four they called for a 1-2-3 inning twice and advanced to as far as second only once.

In the other Big League game last Saturday, the Comets withstood the Islander's rally to escape with a 7-6 win.

The Comets led, 7-2, after four complete innings behind the three RBIs of starting shortstop Franco Nakamura. Nakamura had a two-run single at the bottom of the fourth inning where the Comets collected two more runs to widen their lead. Nakamura, earlier in the third hit an RBI single and had also two runs in the first four innings to give the Comets the upper hand.

However, the Islanders mounted a comeback in the fifth after knocking in three runs off Craig Aguon's RBI single and the Comets' miscues. A Nate Camacho run off an error from Nakamura, who closed out for the Comets, moved the Islanders' within one with two outs at the top of the seventh and last inning. The Comets then remained in contention when Bradley Lieto singled, however not for long as centerfielder E.J. Castro caught a fly ball from Vincent Leon Guerrero in the ensuing play to end the game.

Nakamura went 3-for-4 in the Comets' close win, while Ton Ilo matched the latter's two runs. Justin Lisua, Matt Hamilton, and Greg Sablan scored the three other runs for the Comets.

22

From Page 28

balance in terms of age group and gender.

"This is the most balance team in Tsunami Saipan's history in the Guam meet and it shows that our program is improving a lot," Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said.

Members of the Guam-bound team were selected based on their times in local meets in the 2015-2016 season and their attendance in practice sessions.

"Each swimmer must get a BB time in their events and has practice attendance of 80 percent or better," Kimura said.

The club head coach added that Tsunami Saipan swimmers are encouraged to win or do well in local meets first before they are allowed to participate in the Guam competition. Once they qualified in the Guam meet, swimmers must also make the grade so they compete in a higher level tournament.

"So, the Guam meet is very important to our swimmers, especially those who dream of representing the club and the CNMI in international competitions," Kimura said.

2016 NMIFA 3v3 Tournament/AFC Grassroots Football Day

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United U8 player has possession during their game against Matansa in the 2016 NMIFA 3v3 Tournament/AFC Grassroots Football Day held last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Paire, red uniform, and Tan Holdings U8 players chase the ball.

A Kanoa FC player, right, dribbles in front of a MP United defender.

MP United's Rintaro Miyawaki kicks the ball.

MP United and Matansa players fight for the possession.

A Tan Holdings player goes for a kick in between two Kanoa defenders during their U12 game.

A Tan Holdings player unloads a header against a Kanoa defender.

Tan Holdings' Kaith Lynn Andrei Chavez keeps the ball away from a Paire player.

Raptors even up series vs Cavs with Game 4 win

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Murray struggles in soaked French Open

PAGE 25

Back-to-back titles for Mt. Carmel

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel School's Jang Hoon Lee, left, fakes off the defense of two Marianas Baptist Academy players during the first quarter of their title game in the COPSSA boys high school caging last Friday at the MCS Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Another perfect season, another championship for Mt. Carmel School.

The Knights clinched the boys high school division in the 2015-2016 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League after crushing Marianas Baptist Academy, 70-35, in the winner-take-all finals last Friday at the MCS Gymnasium.

The title win was Mt. Carmel's sixth in as many games in the shortened season as it swept the round-robin elimination, 4-0, and then whipped Grace Christian Academy in the semifinals, 61-22. It was the second straight season that the Knights earned a perfect record as last year they posted a 10-0 mark capped by their 55-46 finals victory over 2014 champion Eucon International School.

Last season's holdovers Anthony Deleon Guerrero and Markel Toves teamed up with newcomer Waren Ellama in lifting Mt. Carmel to the easy win and handing the Knights back-to-back championships. The trio combined for more than half of the team's total points with Ellama firing 20

See MT. CARMEL on Page 26

22 Tsunami Saipan swimmers off to Guam meet

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Twenty-two Tsunami Saipan swimmers are leaving the island tomorrow to compete in the 2016 Guam Championships this weekend at the Hagatna Pool.

The club's senior member Takumi Sugie leads the delegation and will be joined in the two-day meet by Mark Maestro, Nelson Batallones, Juhn Tenorio, Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero, Arman Rechucher, Sean Gil, Isaiah Aleksenko, Hans Xu, Kouki Watanabe, Aasish Dangol, Angel De Jesus, Kimu Tammy, Sophia Gauran, Aika and Nanaka Watanabe, Ayumi Obligacion, Asaka and Shoko Litulumar, Kana Suzuki, Ashley Dangol, and Maria Batallones.

The 22 swimmers are the most that Tsunami Saipan are sending to the Guam meet and the group is also

See 22 on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mark Maestro is among the 22 Tsunami Saipan swimmers leaving the island tomorrow to compete in the 2016 Guam Championships this weekend in Hagatna.

Yankees, Comets nose out opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pitcher M.J. Sakisat flirted with a no-no in the Yankees' 1-0 win over the Braves in the Big League division game in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Sakisat tossed a one-hitter to shut down the Braves. He also tallied five strikeouts, allowed no walks, and had one hit by pitch in a no relief job.

The Braves' lone hit against Sakisat came at bottom of the fifth inning with Jeff Cruz nailing a single. The Braves second batter, however, was left stranded at first, as Sakisat fanned out James Kintol and Frankie Lieto flied out at centerfield. Sakisat earlier picked up a shot from leadoff batter Juan Quitigua and threw to first base for the first out at the bottom of the fifth, which ended with the Yankees still ahead by one run.

The Yankees made it to the board way back at the top of the first off Roke Tenorio's RBI single. The Braves had the best chance to also light up the board and tied the match at the bottom of the third with Cruz reaching third base of a fielder's choice with two outs and Lieto at second. However, a 4-3 putout play on Franklin Lizama foiled the team's bid for a deadlock.

See YANKEES on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Yankees, left, and Islanders players exchange high-fives before their make-up game in the Big League division of the SLLB yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.